RULE SHEET

# Plural nouns



## Spelling rules

| Singular | Plural | Examples |
|---|---|---|
| most nouns | **+ s** | a pen → pens · a girl → girls |
| -s, -ss, -sh, -ch, -x | **+ es** | a peach → peach**es** · a bush → bush**es** |
| consonant + y | **y → ies** | a party → part**ies** · a lorry → lorr**ies** |
| vowel + y | **+ s** | a boy → boy**s** · a donkey → donkey**s** |
| -o | **+ es** or **+ s** | + es: potato, tomato, hero · other -o words + s: a radio → radio**s**, a zoo → zoo**s** |
| -f, -fe | → **ves** | a half → hal**ves** · a wife → wi**ves** · but + s: roof, chef, giraffe, cliff |

## Irregular plurals

| Singular | Plural |
|---|---|
| a man · a woman · a child · a person | **men** · **women** · **children** · **people** |
| a foot · a tooth · a mouse · a goose | **feet** · **teeth** · **mice** · **geese** |
| a sheep · a fish · a deer | **sheep** · **fish** · **deer** (no change) |

Plural noun + **are**: The cat **is** black. → The cats **are** black. → They **are** black.

> **Watch out!** Only plural: jeans, trousers, scissors → The jeans **are** new. · No apostrophe for plurals: The dogs are brown. (not: The dog's are brown.) · a child → child**ren**, not childs.

PRACTICE 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

# + s or + es?

## 1 Tick the correct plural.

1. a cat → _____ ○ cats ○ cates
2. a match → _____ ○ matchs ○ matches
3. a pen → _____ ○ penes ○ pens
4. a beach → _____ ○ beaches ○ beachs
5. a chair → _____ ○ chairs ○ chaires
6. a sandwich → _____ ○ sandwichs ○ sandwiches
7. a tree → _____ ○ treees ○ trees
8. a princess → _____ ○ princesses ○ princesss

## 2 Write the plural.

**Example:** a book → *books*

1. a boss → _____
2. a flower → _____
3. a torch → _____
4. a bag → _____
5. a wish → _____
6. a bird → _____
7. a lunch → _____
8. a pencil → _____