



Noun Spelling

6 Rules for changing singular nouns to plural nouns.

By David S. Dye
M.ED.



toy --- toys

**lady -
- ladies**

**wolf -
- wolves**

**HERO -
-HEROES**

**mouse-
-mice**

**fox -
-foxes**

Noun Spelling

P L U R A L S



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Objective: The objective of these worksheets is to teach students the rules for spelling irregular plural nouns.

Introduction:

Thank you for purchasing this eBook. These worksheets come from *Standards Based Grammar: Grades 3 and 4* and are organized in a way to maximize learning. Here are the main features of this book:

Worksheets

The worksheets in this book help students learn the spelling of plural nouns that don't follow the standard format of just adding an S. Some of the rules make sense as with words such as "wolves" where the pronunciation of the word tells the student that there is a change in the plural rule. However, what about words such as "tornadoes"? The reason for adding ES rather than just an S is not as obvious.

The students are presented at the beginning with a master sheet that shows all the plurals that have unique spellings. This page will come in handy while working on the worksheets, and it can also serve as a handy reference for other classroom activities.

The rest of the worksheets are divided into three sections. Students will focus on two rules at a time and take a quiz. At the end of the book, the students are presented with a quiz on all six rules.

Next Steps

To keep the rules fresh in the students' minds, teachers can add a rule each week to the students' spelling list. For example, the students can be told that they need to study Rule #1 in addition to their regular spelling words. The teacher can even add two or three words from the list to the students' pretest. When it comes time for the test at the end of the week, the teacher can choose any three words from the list to make sure the students remember the rule. The next week, the teacher can repeat the procedure with Rule 2.

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Name: _____

Noun Spelling



Rule

If a word ends in “y”, preceded by a consonant, change the “y” to “i” and add “es”.

country - countries
hobby - hobbies
melody - melodies
berry - berries

mystery - mysteries
beauty - beauties
injury - injuries
supply - supplies

spy - spies
lady - ladies
sky - skies
fly - flies

cry - cries
try - tries
copy - copies

Rule

If a word ends in “y”, preceded by a vowel, just add “s” to make the word plural.

chimney - chimneys
cowboy - cowboys

turkey - turkeys

valley - valleys

birthday - birthdays

Rule

If a word ends in “f” or “fe”, the “f” or “fe” is usually changed to “v” and “es” is added to make the word plural. Chief and belief are two exceptions.

half - halves
wolf - wolves
calf - calves

thief - thieves
leaf - leaves
wife - wives

loaf - loaves
self - selves
elf - elves

life - lives
knife - knives
shelf - shelves

Thank you for
previewing
Spelling Plural Nouns

Name: _____

Rules #1 and #2



Rule

If a word ends in “y”, preceded by a consonant, change the “y” to “i” and add “es”.

Examples: fly = flies copy = copies

Directions: Rewrite the singular nouns as plurals.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. try - _____ | 5. mystery - _____ |
| 2. hobby - _____ | 6. beauty - _____ |
| 3. spy - _____ | 7. cry - _____ |
| 4. country - _____ | 8. lady - _____ |

Rule

If a word ends in “y”, preceded by a vowel, just add “s” to make the word plural.

Examples: turkey = turkeys valley = valleys

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. chimney - _____ | 5. key - _____ |
|--------------------|----------------|

Thank you for
previewing
Spelling Plural Nouns

Name: _____

Rules #1 and #2 Quiz

1. hobby - _____

12. country - _____

2. turkey - _____

13. mystery - _____

3. berry - _____

14. melody - _____

4. fly - _____

15. supply - _____

Thank you for
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Spelling Plural Nouns

Name: _____

Rules #3 and #4



Rule

If a word ends in “f” or “fe”, the “f” or “fe” is usually changed to “v”, and “es” is added to make the word plural. Chief and belief are two exceptions.

Examples: half = halves knife = knives

Directions: Rewrite the singular nouns as plurals.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. wolf - _____ | 6. calf - _____ |
| 2. wife - _____ | 7. *chief - _____ |
| 3. *belief - _____ | 8. life - _____ |
| 4. thief - _____ | 9. elf - _____ |
| 5. self - _____ | 10. shelf - _____ |

Rule

If a word ends in “o”, just “s” is added to make the word plural.
* Sometimes exceptions are made plural by adding “es”:
potato / tomato / buffalo / tornado / hero

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. banjo - _____ | 6. buffalo - _____ |
|------------------|--------------------|

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Spelling Plural Nouns

Name: _____

Rules #5 and #6

Part 2

I. Write Rules #5 and #6 below and give two (2) examples:

Rule #5 - _____

Example #1 _____ Example #2 _____

Rule #6 - _____

Example #1 _____ Example #2 _____

II. Rewrite the singular nouns as plurals. Write the number of the rule next to each word.

Rule #

Rule #

 5 1. sheep - sheep

 11. tooth - _____

 2. patch - _____

 12. deer - _____

 3. man - _____

 13. church - _____

Thank you for
previewing
Spelling Plural Nouns

Name: _____

Rules #1 and #6 Quiz

Directions: Change these singular nouns into plural nouns.

1. hobby - _____

13. country - _____

2. half - _____

14. sheep - _____

3. turkey - _____

15. mystery - _____

4. wife - _____

16. berry - _____

Thank you for
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