

REVISION OF SPELLING

Plural Nouns

A quick reminder:

Putting 's' at the end of a noun (a naming word) makes it **plural**. 'Plural' means more than one.

Some spider **monkeys** were screeching high in the **branches** of a nearby tree. Matthew looked up. Fruit!

He tested the **vines** draping the trunk. They seemed strong enough to bear his weight. While Jade watched heart in mouth, he climbed halfway up the tree and filled his **pockets** with **berries**.



From *Lost in the Rainforest*, Adventure stories

Rules for Plural Nouns

Rule 1: Usually, to make nouns plural, we just add the letter 's' at the end of the word as in *vines* and *pockets*. But this is not always the case.

Rule 2: If a noun ends in y we change the y to i and add es. For example:

berry becomes ***berries***

Rule 3: If a noun ends in a vowel then a y, we just add s. For example:

monkey becomes ***monkeys***

Rule 4: If a noun ends in *ch*, *sh*, *s*, *ss*, *x*, *z* or *o*, we need to add *es*. For example:

branch becomes ***branches***

Rule 5: If a noun ends in f or fe, change the f to v and add es. For example:

leaf becomes *leaves*

BUT... this is not always the case – like in *roofs* and *chiefs*.

EXERCISE 1

Make the nouns plural in these sentences from the story *Lost in the Rainforest*.

1. Matthew yawned. There was nothing to see but (tree) _____.
2. Swarms of (mosquito) _____ plagued the children as they scrambled over tree roots, seedlings, (bush) _____ and rotting (leaf) _____.
3. Jade took off her (shoe) _____.
4. The (ant) _____ spread out in a column 14 (metre) _____ wide, engulfing everything in their path.
5. They quickly learned how to stalk (bird) _____ and (animal) _____ in the forest, and how to set (trap) _____.
6. Their rainforest adventure was over, but the (memory) _____ would last forever.

EXERCISE 2

Make these nouns plural and put them under the correct heading:

window, box, sky, vine, knife, army, bus, life, baby, half, class, shelf, eye, hero, aeroplane, city, mountain, enemy, beach, scarf

Add s	Change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'
Add es	Change 'f' to 'v' and add 'es'

Exercise 3

Some plural nouns *do not* have s added at the end of the word. The word changes in some other way.

Here are two examples from the story:

The **children** quenched their thirst by drinking rainwater that had collected on leaves as big as platters.

The plural noun of *child* is *children*.

Some Indian **women** set out a feast of nuts, fruit and what looked like barbecued snake.

The plural noun of *woman* is *women*.

Can you make these word plural without adding s?

man _____	foot _____
goose _____	tooth _____
mouse _____	person _____

Challenge:

Some plural nouns stay exactly the same. For example:

*My Grandpa had a pet **sheep** when he was a child. (just one sheep)*

*We saw lots of **sheep** at the farm. (more than one sheep)*

Use the clues to find 3 other examples of these types of plural nouns:

A healthy snack: 1 piece of _____ OR

3 pieces of _____ (rhymes with please)

You use these to cut: 1 pair of _____ OR

7 pairs of _____ (rhymes with fizzers)

They swim in the sea: 1 _____ OR

100 _____ (rhymes with dish)