

Kinds of Nouns**Common and Proper**

A **noun** names a person, place, thing, or idea.

A **common noun** names any person, place, thing, or idea, and is not capitalized unless it is the first word in a sentence.

A **proper noun** names a specific person, place, thing, or idea, and is capitalized no matter where it appears in the sentence. Because proper nouns are names, they often are more than one word.

Singular and Plural

A **singular noun** names one person, place, thing, or idea.

A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, thing, or idea.

When making a noun plural, it is important to spell the word correctly. **Never, ever, use an apostrophe to make a noun plural.** Study the chart below, which contains spelling rules for plural nouns.

<u>Singular Noun</u>	<u>To Make it Plural:</u>	<u>Examples</u>	
Most singular nouns	Add s	town becomes towns	wheel becomes wheels
		boy becomes boys	teacher becomes teachers
Nouns ending with s, ss, x, zz, ch, sh	Add es	bus becomes buses	box becomes boxes
		buzz becomes buzzes	church becomes churches
Nouns ending with a consonant and y	Change y to i and add es	city becomes cities	dairy becomes dairies
		penny becomes pennies	fairy becomes fairies
Nouns ending with a vowel and y	Add s	day becomes days	donkey becomes donkeys
		play becomes plays	key becomes keys
Some irregular nouns	Change their spelling completely	man becomes men	child becomes children
		foot becomes feet	mouse becomes mice
Other irregular nouns	Keep the same spelling	sheep stays sheep	moose stays moose
		trout stays trout	series stays series

Possessive

A possessive noun names who or what has something. You use an apostrophe to form the possessive form of the noun. Where you put the apostrophe is very important, because its placement will tell the reader whether the noun is singular or plural. Study the chart below, which shows how to form possessive nouns.

<u>Kind of Noun</u>	<u>To Make it Possessive:</u>	<u>Examples</u>	
<u>All</u> singular nouns	Add 's	the cover of the book	becomes
		the book's cover	
Plural nouns that end in s	Add only 's	the scores of the players	becomes
		the players' scores	
Plural nouns that do not end in s	Add 's	the voices of the women	becomes
		the women's voices	

You never, ever add s' to make a noun possessive. Only add either just an apostrophe, or an apostrophe and then an s.

- 1. If the noun is common, underline it once. If it is proper, underline it twice and capitalize it. On the line, tell whether it names a person, place, thing, or idea.**

Example: They all wanted to make Mr. McDougle proud. person

The dog barked very loudly. _____

We all went down to the Muskingum River together. _____

Miss Brown taught us a lot today. _____

Peace is something we all want. _____

She listened very carefully to the teacher. _____

- 2. Write the complete plural form of each noun. It MUST be spelled correctly to get it right.**

ray _____

fox _____

deer _____

latch _____

penny _____

party _____

sandwich _____

kiss _____

key _____

monkey _____

- 3. Circle the correct possessive noun for each phrase.**

The performance of the stars the stars' performance or the star's performance

The house of Mr. Bliss Mr. Bliss' house or Mr. Bliss's house

The problems of the cities the cities' problems or the cities's problems

The howling of the wolf the wolf's howling or the wolves' howling

The footprints of the deer the deers' footprints or the deer's footprints

The toys of the children the childrens' toys or the children's toys

The flight of the geese the geese' flight or the geese's flight

The rights of Ross Ross's rights or Ross' rights

The eggs of the robin the robins eggs or the robin's eggs

The lawns of the neighbors the neighbors' lawns or the neighbor's lawns