Lesson 19: S at the end of words

Phonics Rule: S at the end of words changes the meaning. At the end of a noun, it can mean more than one.

Note: “s” is a suffix. A suffix is a letter or group of letters added to a word that changes the meaning of the basic root word. The suffix “s” has a Z sound at the end of some words.

In order to make a noun (a person, place, or thing) plural, you must add an “s”:

cat	cats	rock	rocks
dog	dogs	duck	ducks
jet	jets	deck	decks
lid	lids	sack	sacks
bug	bugs	stick	sticks
game	games	bike	bikes
jeep	jeeps	robe	robes
mule	mules	maid	maids

S at the end of a verb shows the action for a singular subject (Ex: he, she, or it bakes):

bake	bakes	wait	waits
read	reads	feed	feeds
hide	hides	bite	bites
vote	votes	rock	rocks
glue	glues	cut	cuts

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If you want to make a word that ends in “ch, s, sh, x, or z” plural, you must add “es” to the end of the word:

church	churches	lurch	lurches
boss	bosses	toss	tosses
mash	mashes	bush	bushes
box	boxes	fox	foxes
buzz	buzzes	fizz	fizzes

Nouns ending in “y” after a vowel form a plural by adding “s”:

mon/key	mon/keys
don/key	don/keys

In order to make plurals from nouns ending in a “y” after a consonant, you must change the “y” to an “i” and add “es”:

puppy	puppies
baby	babies
candy	candies

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With some words that end in “fe”, you must change the “f” to a “v” before you add an “es”.

knife	knives	loaf	loaves
wolf	wolves	leaf	leaves
wife	wives	thief	thieves
dwarf	dwarves	scarf	scarves
wharf	wharves	calf	calves
half	halves		

An “apostrophe + s” shows ownership or possession:

Jim’s pig

Pat’s hair

Kate’s cat

If a word ends in “s”, simply add an apostrophe to show possession:

Chris’ son

The cats’ bowl

The boys’ room

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Here are some possessive words that do not use apostrophes:

his	your	our	their
her	yours	ours	theirs
its			

PRACTICE:

1. Sue waits in line to vote. She votes for the man.
2. The dog bites his bones. He digs deep holes.
3. Jill likes to bake cakes. Bob cuts it and eats it.
4. Pete likes to play games like hide-and-seek.
5. Kate feeds the ducks in the water.
6. Jake hides the sticks be/side the big rocks.
7. Sal wants to be a vet, so she reads about cats and dogs.
8. Tess bakes two cakes with her mom.
9. Ted glues the lids onto the boxes.
10. JESUS writes a note to the churches.
11. The monkeys eat the ban/an/as.
12. The babies are cute.
13. The wives make loaves of bread.





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14. Two halves of a cake make one cake.
15. Kate’s cat is black.
16. Chris’ sons’ names are Noah and Sam.
17. The cats’ bowl is green.
18. When the oven beeps, press its button.



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