

Plurals and Possessives



You're reading with...



the rhinos!

Getting Ready - A Broad View of the Landscape Before You Begin



"When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You can make that word mean more than one.
When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You will find that plural can be fun."

This is the refrain you'll be singing in "The Plural Song" found on track 8 of the CD. Listen to "The Plural Song" with your reader to prepare for the reading in this expedition. All of the words to the song are found on the next page. "Plural" can be fun! The magical "s" can transform single things into multitudes!

The second thing we do in the plurals expedition is to get our blending fingers ready. Once again, follow the rules of blending and "run" from letter to letter, smoothly adding the "s" sound at the end. We have provided a list of words in *The Reading Place* on page 70 that your safari mate has already mastered in previous expeditions. Guide your reader through the words in singular form, followed by their plural counterparts. The last two lists are words (names) in possessive form. Explain that plural is different than possessive. Possessive does NOT mean "more than one". Possessive shows that an object *belongs* to someone (he or she possesses it), and we need to add an apostrophe before the "s". Point to the apostrophe and say that whenever an apostrophe is present, it does NOT mean more than one. It is NOT plural. (Use examples to demonstrate what possessive means, such as Tom's ball, Ben's cup, Jim's pig.)

After *The Reading Place* portion of the expedition has been completed, turn to the Funsheets. More "plural" fun awaits your reader and you!

Taking a Closer Look - Sample Dialogue to Help Direct Your Course

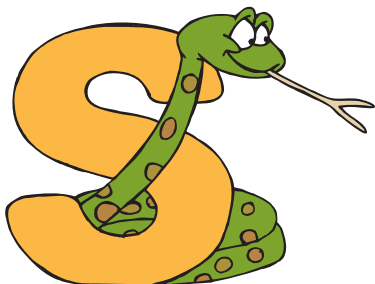
Tour Guide: "Are you ready to do some magic?"

Reader: "Yes."

Tour Guide: "I have a letter that can magically make one toy into many toys! It can make one cookie into a whole plate of cookies! Can you guess what my magical letter is?"

Reader: "No. What is it?"

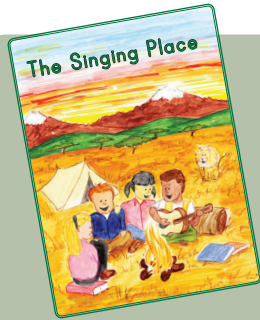
Tour Guide: (Holds up the letter "s" card) "Here it is. It's the letter 's'. When we put it at the end of a word, it magically can make the word mean more than one. Let's listen to 'The Plural Song' and then we'll read some words to see how the 's' does its magic. Ready? Let's begin!"



The letter "s" is magical and wonderful.



"Rhino" is a nickname for rhinoceros. Rhinoceros means, "nose horn". Do you have a nickname, too?



The Plural Song

When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You can make that word mean more than one.
When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You will find that "plural" can be fun!

You can turn a toy into toys,

A boy into boys,
A star into stars,
And a car into cars.
You can turn a bug into bugs,
A hug into hugs!

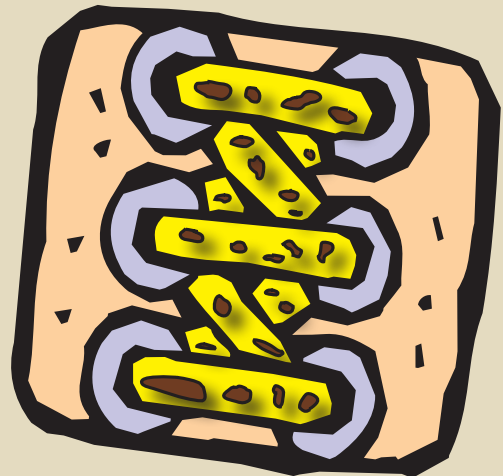
See? Plural can be fun,
And plural means more than one!

When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You can make that word mean more than one.
When you put an "s" at the end of a word,
You will find that plural can be fun!
Plural means more than one!
Plural means more than one!

More Fun...
for Friends

Safari Sneakers

Get into the jungle spirit! Why not surprise your reader with a cool pair of jungle ties for his or her sneakers? Just take a pair of plain old boring white shoelaces and add black zebra stripes or leopard spots or leopard spots or camouflage print. Use permanent markers and imagination. They're guaranteed to create a smile!

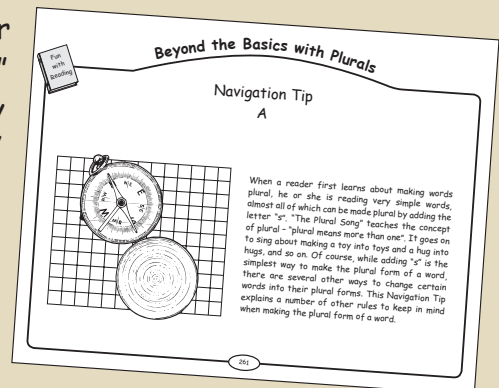


More Tips...
for Tour Guides

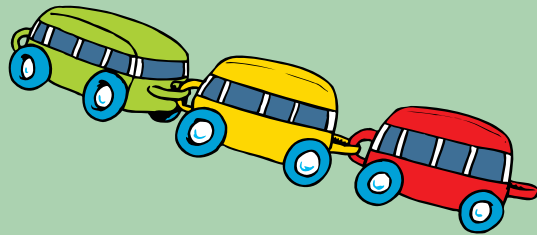
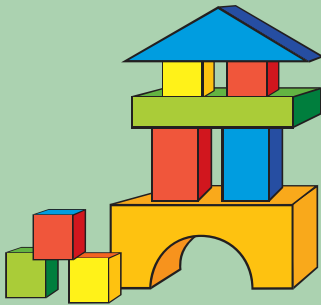
"Singular" means one thing (a single item).

"Plural" means more than one thing.

Not all words are made plural by adding an "s". For example, some words are made plural by adding "es" or "ies". Some words are made plural by actually changing the word itself, such as foot/feet, mouse/mice, etc. A handy list of rules and words is included in Navigation Tip A on page 261 of *The Reading Place*. For right now, teach the concept of "s" at the end. Most of the words your reader will master in early expeditions will follow the "s" rule.



Maria just emptied all of her toys from her toy box. Circle the toys below that show "more than one".



Read the sentences below.

Circle all of the words
that are plural.

The dogs run.

The bugs hop.

The pups dig.

The pigs sit.

Dan has ten caps.

The hen has eggs.

Kim will hug the dolls.

The kids yell.

Play "Plural Memory"

Directions: Find the Plural Memory Game on Extra Game Gear Card 2. Cut out the game tiles on the card. Mix them up and place them face down on a table. The player turns two cards face up. If the two cards are a word and its plural form, a "match" has been made and the player takes the cards. If not, the cards are turned face down again and the next player takes a turn. The player with the most matches, when all of the cards are gone, is the winner. Don't forget to ask your safari mate, "which card shows the plural form?" and "what does plural mean?".

