

SPELLING WITH PLURALS AND POSSESSIVES

It's important to pay attention to spelling when you are using plurals and possessives in your writing. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, or thing. A **possessive noun** shows who or what owns something or has something.



Add an **apostrophe** and **-s ('s)** to a singular noun to make it a possessive noun.



photograph's

When a plural noun ends in **-s**, just add an **apostrophe (')** to make it a possessive noun.



photographs'

When a plural noun does not end in **-s**, add an **apostrophe** and **-s ('s)** to make it a possessive noun.



*fish's
people's*

Directions: Identify the error in each sentence. Cross it out and write the correct word on the line.

Example: While joining my grandmother at the community garden, I saw a vibrant ecosystem filled with ~~birds's~~, plants, and insects.

birds

1. Every year, Mrs. Cunningham spends time at Wave Hill Public Garden to admire the landscape and savor the dramatic ~~view's~~ of the Hudson River.

views

2. Field trips to local parks and nature preserves can increase ~~childrens~~ interest in and awareness of the natural world around them.

children's

3. Despite my efforts at pest control, the large number of Japanese beetles poses a significant problem for the rose ~~bushes'~~ in my garden.

bushes

4. Council members posted signs throughout the school building to encourage ~~student's~~ and staff to conserve energy by turning off the lights.

students

5. The Green Belt ~~Movement's~~ mission is to empower communities to conserve and improve the environment by planting trees.

Movement's

6. Galápagos National Park protects the nesting zone for marine iguanas, the ~~world's'~~ only sea-going lizard, by restricting access to the area.

world's

7. The ~~principals~~ footsteps echoed across the vast auditorium as he took his place in front of the podium to deliver the opening remarks for the assembly.

principal's

8. The art ~~teachers~~ eyebrows raised in surprise when they heard the announcement about which of their classes won the Earth Day door decorating contest.

teachers'

9. Although the howling of ~~coyote's~~ can be alarming, wildlife specialists say that coyotes howl primarily to communicate with each other and establish territory.

coyotes

10. Our local representative held a town hall meeting to hear ~~peoples'~~ opinions about the new project that would build a bypass around the congested areas.

people's