

JUST A SHORT TALK ABOUT THE PLURAL OF NOUNS

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Spelling rules

1. Most nouns form their plural by adding **—S**
one cat - two cats
2. Nouns ending in **—s, —ss, —sh, —ch, —x or —o** take **—es** in the plural
bus-buses
dress-dresses
dish-dishes
peach-peaches
box-boxes
potato-potatoes

but some nouns ending in —o take only —s:

- radio-radios
 - piano-pianos
 - studio-studios
 - video-videos
 - kilo-kilos
 - rhino-rhinos
3. Nouns ending in **a vowel + —y** take **—s** in the plural
boy-boys
toy-toys
 4. Nouns ending in a **consonant + —y** drop the **—y** and take **—ies** in the plural
cherry – cherries
country-countries
 5. Nouns ending in **—f** or **—fe** drop the **—f** or **—fe** and take **—ves** in the plural
loaf-loaves
wife-wives

but some nouns ending in —f or —fe take only —s:

- roof-roofs
- giraffe-giraffes
- cliff-cliffs
- chief-chiefs
- handkerchief-handkerchiefs
- proof-proofs

Some nouns do not form their plural according to the above rules. They have either a different form or the same form as in the singular.

- ✓ child-children
- ✓ man-men
- ✓ woman-women
- ✓ foot-feet
- ✓ tooth-teeth
- ✓ goose-geese
- ✓ mouse-mice
- ✓ louse-lice
- ✓ sheep-sheep

