Whose Stuff?

Sort phrases by how many owners they show.

2.LF.45.f "Use plural possessives."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ONE OWNER

One person or animal owns something. Put the apostrophe before the s.

the chef's apron

MORE THAN ONE OWNER

More than one person or animal owns something. When the owner word ends in s, put the apostrophe after the s.

the hikers' tents

1 SORT

8 items

Circle ONE or MANY for each phrase; in Part 2, pick two items and explain how you knew.

1.	the dog's bone	ONE MANY
2.	the cats' toys	ONE MANY
3.	the birds' nests	ONE MANY
4.	the girl's bike	ONE MANY
5.	the frogs' pond	ONE MANY
6.	the ducks' feathers	ONE MANY
7.	the rabbits' burrows	ONE MANY
8.	the boy's coat	ONE MANY

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new phrase for ONE and one new phrase for MANY.

ONE _____

MANY _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with two MANY-owner phrases. Underline both owner words.

ANSWER KEY # Whose Stuff?

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.45.f

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	the dog's bone	**ONE**	One dog owns the bone; the apostrophe is before s.
2	the cats' toys	**MANY**	More than one cat owns the toys; the apostrophe is after s.
3	the birds' nests	**MANY**	More than one bird owns the nests; the apostrophe is after s.
4	the girl's bike	**ONE**	One girl owns the bike; the apostrophe is before s.
5	the frogs' pond	**MANY**	More than one frog shares the pond; the apostrophe is after s.
6	the ducks' feathers	**MANY**	More than one duck has feathers; the apostrophe is after s.
7	the rabbits' burrows	**MANY**	More than one rabbit owns the burrows; the apostrophe is after s.
8	the boy's coat	**ONE**	One boy owns the coat; the apostrophe is before s.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ONE**: the baby's blanket
- **MANY**: the horses' hay

Challenge: The pigs' pens and the hens' coop are on the farm.

For Part 2, possible explanations are: Item 2 shows more than one cat, so the apostrophe follows s; item 4 shows one girl, so the apostrophe comes before s.