

Y Word Switch

Sort plural patterns and prove your choices.

2.L.GC.1.14 "Grammar: Form plural nouns by changing -y to -ies. (Master)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CHANGE Y TO IES

When a noun ends with a consonant and y,
change the y to ies to make it plural.

city → cities

KEEP Y, ADD S

When a noun ends with a vowel and y, keep
the y and add s to make it plural.

toy → toys

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle the category that shows how each noun makes a plural, then pick two items and explain whether you change or keep the y.

1. 1. puppy

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

2. 2. lady

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

3. 3. key

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

4. 4. berry

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

5. 5. day

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

6. 6. monkey

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

7. 7. story

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

8. 8. family

CHANGE Y

KEEP Y

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 noun for CHANGE Y and one new noun for KEEP Y. Write each plural, too.

CHANGE Y _____

KEEP Y _____

CHALLENGE

Write the plural forms of pony and valley. Then tell why their endings are different.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	1. puppy	CHANGE Y	The letter before y is p, a consonant, so puppy becomes puppies.
2	2. lady	CHANGE Y	The letter before y is d, a consonant, so lady becomes ladies.
3	3. key	KEEP Y	The letter before y is e, a vowel, so key becomes keys.
4	4. berry	CHANGE Y	The letter before y is r, a consonant, so berry becomes berries.
5	5. day	KEEP Y	The letter before y is a, a vowel, so day becomes days.
6	6. monkey	KEEP Y	The letter before y is e, a vowel, so monkey becomes monkeys.
7	7. story	CHANGE Y	The letter before y is r, a consonant, so story becomes stories.
8	8. family	CHANGE Y	The letter before y is l, a consonant, so family becomes families.

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)

- **CHANGE Y:** party → parties
- **KEEP Y:** tray → trays

Challenge: pony → ponies because p is a consonant. valley → valleys because e is a vowel.

Items 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8 are CHANGE Y. Items 3, 5, and 6 are KEEP Y. For Part 2, students should name the letter before y and tell whether it is a consonant or vowel.