

Plural Word Detectives

Sort, pick two choices to explain, then write your own.

3.L.GC.1.19 "Grammar: Form and use irregular plural nouns. (Master)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

CORRECT PLURAL

Some nouns make plurals in special ways. Use the special plural form when you mean more than one.

Several moose moved through snow.

INCORRECT PLURAL

Do not add -s or -es to an irregular plural that has a special form.

Several mooses moved through snow.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence and circle RIGHT or WRONG for the plural noun.

1. The children played tag.

RIGHT

WRONG

2. Two deers ran across the field.

RIGHT

WRONG

3. The mouses ate cheese.

RIGHT

WRONG

4. The women carried umbrellas.

RIGHT

WRONG

5. We saw three geese by the pond.

RIGHT

WRONG

6. The men fixed the fence.

RIGHT

WRONG

7. Three sheeps grazed.

RIGHT

WRONG

8. The oxen pulled the cart.

RIGHT

WRONG

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 sentence with a RIGHT irregular plural and one new sentence with a WRONG irregular plural.

RIGHT _____

WRONG _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite this sentence with both plural nouns corrected: The childs watched two deers.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The children played tag.	RIGHT	Children is the correct plural of child.
2	Two deers ran across the field.	WRONG	The plural of deer is deer, not deers.
3	The mouses ate cheese.	WRONG	The plural of mouse is mice, not mouses.
4	The women carried umbrellas.	RIGHT	Women is the correct plural of woman.
5	We saw three geese by the pond.	RIGHT	Geese is the correct plural of goose.
6	The men fixed the fence.	RIGHT	Men is the correct plural of man.
7	Three sheeps grazed.	WRONG	The plural of sheep is sheep, not sheeps.
8	The oxen pulled the cart.	RIGHT	Oxen is the correct plural of ox.

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)

- **RIGHT:** Several fish swam near the rocks.
- **WRONG:** Several fishs swam near the rocks.

Challenge: The children watched two deer.

For Part 2, students may explain that the correct word uses a special plural form or that the incorrect word adds -s when it should not. Accept different irregular plural nouns in Part 3 if each sentence clearly shows the intended category.