

Many Owners

Find phrases that show more than one owner.

3.L.GC.1.37 “Mechanics: Use apostrophes to form plural possessive nouns. (Introduce)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

PLURAL POSSESSIVE

A plural possessive noun names more than one owner. For most plural nouns ending in s, put the apostrophe after the s.

the bakers' ovens

NOT A PLURAL POSSESSIVE

This phrase does not name more than one owner. It may name one owner or no owner.

the baker's oven

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle PLURAL or OTHER for each phrase, then choose two items and explain how you know where each belongs.

1. the dancers' shoes

PLURAL

OTHER

2. the foxes' den

PLURAL

OTHER

3. the girl's backpack

PLURAL

OTHER

4. the babies' blankets

PLURAL

OTHER

5. the trucks move

PLURAL

OTHER

6. the child's toy

PLURAL

OTHER

7. the players' jerseys

PLURAL

OTHER

8. the teachers' desks

PLURAL

OTHER

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 with a plural possessive noun and one new phrase that does not have a plural possessive noun.

PLURAL _____

OTHER _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that uses two plural possessive nouns.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	the dancers' shoes	PLURAL	Dancers is plural and the apostrophe shows that the shoes belong to the dancers.
2	the foxes' den	PLURAL	Foxes is plural and the apostrophe shows that the den belongs to the foxes.
3	the girl's backpack	OTHER	Girl's names one owner, not more than one owner.
4	the babies' blankets	PLURAL	Babies is plural and the apostrophe shows that the blankets belong to the babies.
5	the trucks move	OTHER	Trucks is plural, but it does not show ownership.
6	the child's toy	OTHER	Child's names one owner, not more than one owner.
7	the players' jerseys	PLURAL	Players is plural and the apostrophe shows that the jerseys belong to the players.
8	the teachers' desks	PLURAL	Teachers is plural and the apostrophe shows that the desks belong to the teachers.

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)

- **PLURAL:** the cooks' aprons
- **OTHER:** the cook's apron

Challenge: The musicians' instruments rested beside the coaches' bags.

Answers are 1 PLURAL, 2 PLURAL, 3 OTHER, 4 PLURAL, 5 OTHER, 6 OTHER, 7 PLURAL, 8 PLURAL. For Part 2, students should explain that a plural possessive names more than one owner and usually has an apostrophe after a plural noun ending in s.