Ending Detectives

Sort endings, explain two choices, and write your own.

2.LF.45.b "Form regular nouns and verbs by adding -s or -es."

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADD -S

Add just one letter, s, to most words. This can show more than one or tell what one person or thing does.

tree → trees

ADD -ES

Add two letters, es, when a word ends in s, x, z, ch, or sh. This can show more than one or tell what one person or thing does.

dish → dishes

1 SORT

8 items

Read each word, then circle Add -s or Add -es to show which ending it needs.

1. box ONE TWO

2. wash ONE TWO

3. cup ONE TWO

4. hop ONE TWO

5. bird ONE TWO

6. watch ONE TWO

7. read ONE TWO

8. sock ONE TWO

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two words from Part 1 and tell how you knew which ending to add to each.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new word that takes -s and one new word that takes -es.

ONE _____

TWO _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences. Use one Part 1 word as a noun with -es and one Part 1 word as a verb with -s.

ANSWER KEY

Ending Detectives

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.45.b

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	box	**TWO**	Box ends in x: boxes.
2	wash	**TWO**	Wash ends in sh: washes.
3	cup	**ONE**	Cup takes -s: cups.
4	hop	**ONE**	Hop takes -s: hops.
5	bird	**ONE**	Bird takes -s: birds.
6	watch	**TWO**	Watch ends in ch: watches.
7	read	**ONE**	Read takes -s: reads.
8	sock	**ONE**	Sock takes -s: socks.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick two words from Part 1 and tell how you knew which ending to add to each.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ONE**: lamp → lamps
- **TWO**: match → matches

Challenge: The boxes are heavy. A frog hops.

For Part 2, accept explanations that name the word ending and the correct letters to add. For example, box ends in x, so add -es; hop does not end in s, x, z, ch, or sh, so add -s.