The Y Switch

Sort words by how their plurals are made.

2.LF.45.d "Form plurals by changing -y to -ies."

NAME _____ DATE _____

CHANGE Y TO IES

If the letter before y is not a, e, i, o, or u, change y to ies to name more than one.

puppy → puppies

KEEP Y AND ADD S

If the letter before y is a, e, i, o, or u, keep the y and add s to name more than one.

toy → toys

1 SORT

8 items

For each word, circle CHANGE or ADD and write its plural; then pick one word from each group and explain how you knew.

1.	baby	CHANGE	ADD
2.	key	CHANGE	ADD
3.	boy	CHANGE	ADD
4.	city	CHANGE	ADD
5.	lady	CHANGE	ADD
6.	penny	CHANGE	ADD
7.	day	CHANGE	ADD
8.	story	CHANGE	ADD

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick one word from each group and explain how you knew.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new word for each group and show its plural.

CHANGE _____

ADD _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about more than one thing. Use a CHANGE plural in one sentence and an ADD plural in the other.

ANSWER KEY

The Y Switch

GRADE 2 · 2.LF.45.d

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	baby	**CHANGE**	b comes before y, so baby becomes babies.
2	key	**ADD**	e comes before y, so key becomes keys.
3	boy	**ADD**	o comes before y, so boy becomes boys.
4	city	**CHANGE**	t comes before y, so city becomes cities.
5	lady	**CHANGE**	d comes before y, so lady becomes ladies.
6	penny	**CHANGE**	n comes before y, so penny becomes pennies.
7	day	**ADD**	a comes before y, so day becomes days.
8	story	**CHANGE**	r comes before y, so story becomes stories.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick one word from each group and explain how you knew.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CHANGE**: cherry → cherries
- **ADD**: ray → rays

Challenge: The candies fell from the bag. The monkeys climbed the tree.

For Part 2, students should name the letter before y and use it to explain each choice. Part 3 examples must be new words that follow the rule for their group.