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.	puppy	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
2.	lady	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
3.	key	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
4.	berry	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
5.	day	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
6.	monkey	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
7.	story	CHANGE Y	KEEP Y
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.

ANSWER KEY

Y Word Switch

GRADE 2 · 2.L.GC.1.14

PART 1 · SORT

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