

Spring Possessive Apostrophes

One of the reasons that we may need to use apostrophes in our writing is to show possession. The apostrophe shows us who (or what) something belongs to.

Showing possession with singular nouns.

The word singular means just one of something. To show ownership when we are referring to a singular noun, we usually add an apostrophe, then the letter 's' after the final letter in the word.

For example:

The rays of the **sun** shone on the hillside.

The **sun's** rays shone on the hillside.

If the singular noun already ends with 's', we add an apostrophe to the end of it to show possession.

For example:

The flowers belonging to **James** were growing well.

James' flowers were growing well.

Showing possession with plural nouns.

Plural means more than one. If a noun is plural and already ends with 's', we add an apostrophe to show possession.

If the plural noun is irregular (does not end in 's'), we add an apostrophe and 's' to the end of the word to indicate possession.

For example:

The petals belonging to the **flowers** were yellow.

The **flowers'** petals were yellow.



For example:

The skipping ropes belonging to the children were in the outdoor equipment box.

The children's skipping ropes were in the outdoor equipment box.



Task 1

Look at the table below. Each box contains an example of how we might use an apostrophe to show possession.

For each box, decide if the apostrophe indicates a singular noun (one) or plural noun (more than one). Colour the box according to the key.

lambs' wool	chick's feathers	Colour Key
children's toys	men's umbrellas	
trees' blossoms	kitten's food	Singular possessive apostrophe: yellow
birds' song	farmer's tractor	
daffodil's petals	Tom's coat	
lawnmower's engine	bird's nest	



Task 2

Complete the sentences below by changing the singular noun into a plural possessive noun. Take care when placing the possessive apostrophe.

1. The _____ song filled the air as we took our nature walk.
(Noun: blackbird)
2. The _____ sheep were all lambing.
(Noun: farmer)
3. The _____ chocolate eggs were all in the basket.
(Noun: girl)
4. The _____ boots were muddy after all the spring showers.
(Noun: children)
5. The _____ pink petals had drifted all over the garden.
(Noun: cherry tree)



Answers

Task 1

Look at the table below. Each box contains an example of how we might use an apostrophe to show possession.

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lamb's wool	chick's feathers
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Colour Key	
Plural possessive apostrophe: green	Green
Singular possessive apostrophe: yellow	Yellow

Task 2

Complete the sentences below by changing the singular noun into a plural possessive noun. Take care when placing the possessive apostrophe.

1. The **blackbirds'** song filled the air as we took our nature walk.
(Noun: blackbird)
2. The **farmers'** sheep were all lambing.
(Noun: farmer)
3. The **girls'** chocolate eggs were all in the basket.
(Noun: girl)
4. The **children's** boots were muddy after all the spring showers.
(Noun: children)
5. The **cherry trees'** pink petals had drifted all over the garden.
(Noun: cherry tree)