

Summer Possessive Apostrophes Activity

When writing, we need to use apostrophes to show possession or ownership, and if we have contracted (shortened) words.

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 heat of the sun was intense.
- The sun's heat was intense.

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

- The shade of the oasis was a welcome relief to the weary travellers.
- The oasis' shade was a welcome relief to the weary travellers.

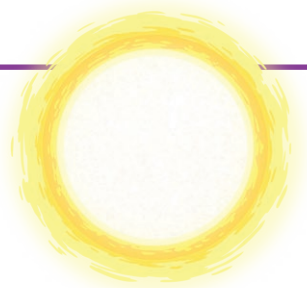
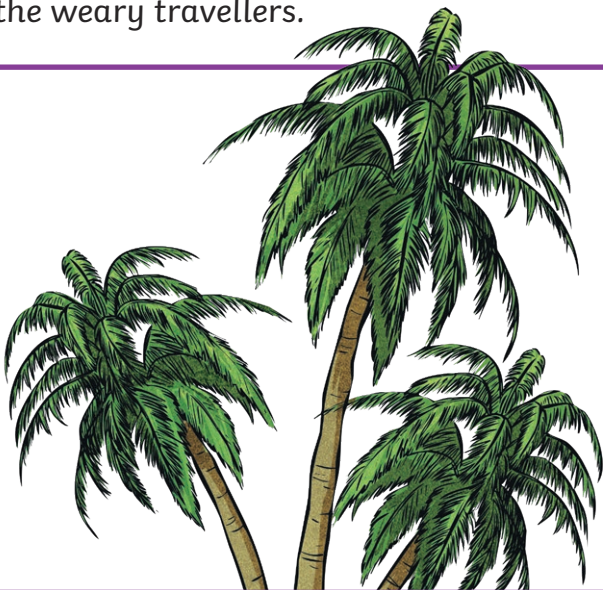
Showing possession with plural nouns.

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

- The petals belonging to the sunflowers were yellow.
- The sunflowers' petals were yellow.

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 swimming goggles belonging to the children were in the beach bag.
- The children's swimming goggles were in the beach bag.



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.

Key

Singular possessive apostrophe: **yellow**

Plural possessive apostrophe: **green**

puffins' chicks	wave's power	sunflowers' seeds
children's sandals	men's hats	squirrel's kittens
otter's holt	crab's shell	starfish's eyespots
girls' beach towels	dad's deckchair	butterfly's wings

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 _____ roar filled the air as we waited at the airport.

(Noun: aeroplane)

2. The _____ residents were all so interesting to observe.

(Noun: rockpool)

3. The _____ ice creams were dripping in the heat.

(Noun: boy)



Task 3

Write a sentence about:

1. Cool drinks belonging to a family.

2. A swimming pool belonging to a hotel.

3. Tents belonging to the campers.

4. Passports belonging to a group of people.

5. The sunglasses belonging to James.

6. The field of sunflowers owned by a farmer.



Answers

Task 1

Key		
Singular possessive apostrophe: yellow		Plural possessive apostrophe: green
puffins' chicks	wave's power	sunflowers' seeds
children's sandals	men's hats	squirrel's kittens
otter's holt	crab's shell	starfish's eyespots
girls' beach towels	dad's deckchair	butterfly's wings

Task 2

1. The **aeroplanes'** roar filled the air as we waited at the airport.
2. The **rockpools'** residents were all so interesting to observe.
3. The **boys'** ice creams were dripping in the heat.

Task 3

Pupils' own sentences