

# LANGUAGE ARTS

*capitalization & plurals*

## CAPITALIZATION

THE FOLLOWING CHART PROVIDES A QUICK OVERVIEW OF CAPITALIZATION RULES.

- All proper nouns → Shannon O'Connor, Orlando, Bill of Rights
- All proper adjectives → Kraft cheese, Bounty paper towels, Phillips screwdriver
- The first word in every sentence → Her dress is stunning.
- Races, languages, nationalities → Asian, French, African-American
- Nouns/Pronouns that refer to a supreme being → God, Yahweh
- Days of the week → Sunday, Monday, Tuesday
- Formal epithets → Ivan the Terrible
- Bodies of water → Amazon River, Lake Huron, Wea Creek
- Cities, towns → Houston, Lafayette, Dearborn
- Counties → Tippecanoe, Cork
- Continents → Africa, North America
- Landforms → Mojave Desert, the Appalachians
- Holidays and holy days → Easter, Day of Christ, Thanksgiving
- Months → January, February
- Official documents → Emancipation Proclamation
- Official titles → President Obama, Mayor Bradley
- Periods and events in history → Middle Ages, Renaissance
- Planets, heavenly bodies → Mars, Pluto, Milky Way
- Public areas → Yellowstone National Park
- Sections of a country or continent → the Northwest, the Middle East
- Special events → Battle of Lexington
- Streets, roads, highways → Rodeo Drive, Route 66, Interstate 65
- Trade names → Honda Accord, Kellogg's Corn Flakes

## School Datebooks

## PLURALS

THE FOLLOWING CHART PROVIDES A QUICK OVERVIEW OF PLURALIZATION RULES.

- The plurals of most nouns are formed by adding *s* to the singular.  
→ Examples: pie = pies | doctor = doctors | sandwich = sandwiches
- The plural forms of nouns ending in *sh*, *ch*, *x*, *s* and *z* are made by adding *es* to the singular.  
→ Examples: dish = dishes | fox = foxes | buzz = buzzes | church = churches
- The plurals of common nouns that end in *y* preceded by a consonant are formed by changing the *y* to *i* and adding *es*.  
→ Examples: fly = flies | copy = copies

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- The plurals of words that end in *y* preceded by a vowel are formed by adding only *s*.  
→ Examples: holiday = holidays | monkey = monkeys

- The plurals of words ending in *o* preceded by a vowel are formed by adding *s*.  
→ Examples: studio = studios | rodeo = rodeos

- The plurals of words ending in *o* preceded by a consonant are formed by adding *s* or *es*.  
→ Examples: hero = heroes | banjo = banjos | tomato = tomatoes | piano = pianos

- The plurals of nouns ending in *f* or *fe* are formed in one of two ways:

{1} If the *f* sound is still heard in the plural form, simply add *s*.

→ Examples: roof = roofs | chief = chiefs

{2} If the final sound in the plural is a *ve* sound, change the *f* to *ve* and add *s*.

→ Examples: wife = wives | knife = knives

- Foreign words and some English words form the plural by taking on an irregular spelling.

→ Examples: crisis = crises | criterion = criteria | goose = geese | ox = oxen

- The plurals of symbols, letters and figures are formed by adding an *s*.

→ Examples: 5 = 5s

- The plural of nouns that end in *ful* are formed by adding *s* at the end of the word.

→ Examples: handful = handfuls | pailful = pailfuls | tankful = tankfuls