

# Possessive



# Apostrophes



# What Are Possessive Apostrophes?

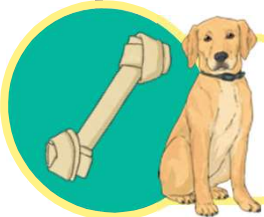
An apostrophe is a small dash punctuation mark that is placed above the letters in a word when you are either contracting two words (such as “I am” to “I’m”) or when you are showing possession.

A possessive apostrophe shows ownership or belonging.

**For example:**



**Tara's room** - the room belongs to Tara



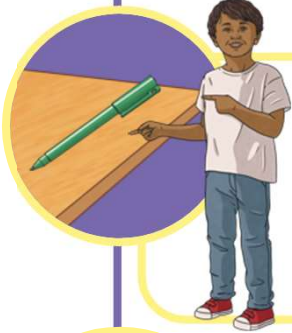
**The dog's bone** - the bone belongs to the dog

# Singular Possessive Apostrophes

's

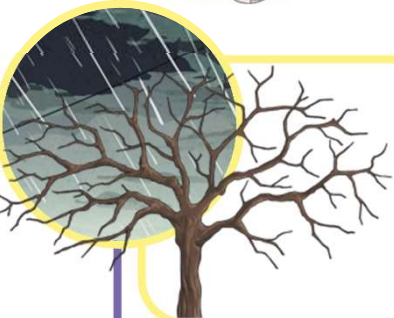
When we are showing possession by a singular noun, the apostrophe is followed by the letter **s**.

**For example:**



The pen belonging to Matthew was on the desk.

Matthew's pen was on the desk.



The branches belonging to the tree swayed in the wind.

The tree's branches swayed in the wind.

# Singular Possessive Apostrophes

s's

When nouns already end in a letter **s**, you need to add an apostrophe and an additional **s**.



The football belonging to Thomas had a puncture in it.

Thomas's football had a puncture in it.



The tentacle belonging to the octopus was wrapped around the shell.

The octopus's tentacle was wrapped around the shell.

# Plural Possessive Apostrophes

However,

However, not all plural nouns end in **s**.  
Some plural nouns are irregular, e.g. children, people, mice.

In cases such as these, add an apostrophe and an **s** to the end of the word.

We put extra blankets in the bed belonging to the puppies.

We put extra blankets in the puppies' bed.

The coats belonging to the children were wet from the rain.

The children's coats were wet from the rain.

I borrowed my parents' car.

However,



# Dictation Sheet 1 Answers



1. The scary monster's claws were enormous, long and sharp.
2. Sarah's yellow wellies were covered in mud from the river.
3. Carlos's collection of marbles rolled off the table and onto the floor.
4. Our father's study was crowded with many books and important papers.
5. As we drove, we could clearly see the city's bright lights in the distance.
6. Their house's roof was damaged severely in the terrible storm.
7. Her favourite red jumper's buttons were shaped like large strawberries.
8. The oasis's many palm trees offered plenty of shade for the travellers.
9. Natural disasters, such as earthquakes and hurricanes, can damage people's homes.
10. Accidentally, the clumsy waiter spilled spaghetti bolognese over Charles's head.



# Dictation Sheet 2 Answers



1. Carefully, the driver unloaded all of the passengers' suitcases from underneath the bus seats.
2. In the enchanted castle, all of the fairies' wings glittered like diamonds in the sunlight.
3. The octopus's soft body could slip through even the tightest spaces in the coral reef.
4. While he finished his homework, Alex's mum brought him his favourite sandwich and drink.
5. Through the tree's leaves, I could see a pair of glittering eyes shining in the dark.
6. The ranger could hear the wolves' howls as he hiked towards the lake.
7. The teacher's new desk arrived before his work day started.
8. The concerned doctor swiftly signed her patient's referral for further x-rays.
9. Andres's lunch box was covered with ants because it had been left outside overnight.
10. She had discovered that her family's ancestors had travelled from Italy to England in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



# Dictation Sheet 3 Answers



1. Unfortunately, the football player's ankle would not be healed before the big game.
2. Without water, the plant's long green leaves began to turn brown and wilt.
3. Mavis's bright green bicycle was a gift from her grandfather for her birthday.
4. Over time, the pillow's stuffing grew flat and it didn't really support my head.
5. The head of the company was impressed with the designer's creative and eye-catching work.
6. Following a tip, the clever police were able to find the thieves' secret lair.
7. The brothers' faces were muddy but happy after their visit to the woods.
8. The twins' room was messy after they both had playdates with their friends.
9. The pigs' pen wasn't big enough to hold both of them anymore.
10. Quietly, Amos's mother tucked him in while he slept.



