

Apostrophes That Show Belonging

2nd Grade

The apostrophe that says something belongs to someone, and where it goes.

To show something belongs to someone, add an apostrophe then an s. If the owner is already plural and ends in s, the apostrophe goes after it.

owner + 's

the lead of the dog

One owner — apostrophe before the s.

the dog's lead

the leads of the dogs

Many owners already ending in s — apostrophe after.

the dogs' leads

the coat of the children

Plural not ending in s — back to 's.

the children's coat

the bike of Sam

Names work exactly the same way.

Sam's bike

THE COMMON MISTAKE

✗ **apple's for sale**

✓ **apples for sale**

Plurals never take an apostrophe. Nothing belongs to the apples.

Find the owner first. The apostrophe always goes immediately after the owner.