

Keywords

Here are two more rules about plural suffixes:

Rule 1: If a word ends in an "f," then you have to drop the "f" and add "-ves" to make it plural. This usually does not add a syllable.

So: (*calf* - f) + ves = *calves*

Or: (*knife* - fe) + ves = *knives*

Rule 2: Some words have weird plurals, like *foot* and *feet*.

READ the paragraph. The words in **bold** are your keywords.

In the old days, farm families lived very busy **lives**. They took care of their animals, including the **calves**, **geese**, and **oxen**. They groomed their horses and checked their **teeth** and **hooves**. Dogs guarded against **wolves**. Cats kept **mice** out of the grain. While the **men** tended the fields, their **wives** made everything from **loaves** of bread to butter. Even the **children** had jobs to do!

FILL IN the blanks with the **bold** words in alphabetical order.

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 10. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 12. _____ |

Stack Up

READ the keywords out loud. SORT the keywords by how they become plural. Then FILL IN the blanks with the singular forms of the words.

calves children geese hooves lives loaves
men mice oxen teeth wives wolves

"-f" to "-ves" Plurals

Example: knives knife

Plural

Singular

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |

Oddball Plurals

Example: feet foot

Plural

Singular

- | | |
|----------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ |

Criss Cross

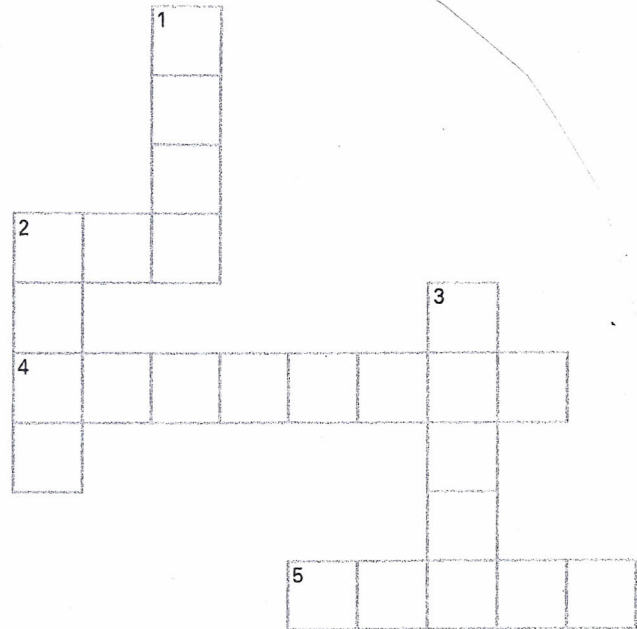
FILL IN the grid by answering the clues with keywords.

ACROSS

2. More than one man
4. More than one child
5. More than one tooth

DOWN

1. More than one ox
2. More than one mouse
3. More than one goose



Alternate Endings

DROP the "f" or "fe" and ADD a "-ves" to these words to make them plural.
FILL IN the blanks with the plural words.

Example: life lives

Singular

Plural

dwarf

1. _____

half

2. _____

knife

3. _____

leaf

4. _____

Singular

Plural

scarf

5. _____

self

6. _____

shelf

7. _____

thief

8. _____

Spotlight on Syllables

READ these plural words out loud. SORT the words by how many syllables they have. SPLIT the words into syllables, using dots to mark the breaks.

ditches

bushes

scarves

oxen

branches

knives

dice

moves

flies

hooves

boxes

inches

Example: slots spac•es

One-Syllable Words

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Two-Syllable Words

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____