

English Language Arts (ELA) - Spelling

Plurals of Nouns Ending in F or FE

1. To form the plural of **most** nouns that end in "f" or "fe," just add an "s" at the end of the word.

<u>Singular Form</u>	<u>Plural Form</u>
roof	roof <u>s</u>
proof	proof <u>s</u>
chief	chief <u>s</u>
belief	belief <u>s</u>
sheriff	sheriff <u>s</u>
giraffe	giraffe <u>s</u>

2. To form the plural of **some** nouns that end in "f" or "fe," change the "f" or "fe" to "v" and add "es."

<u>Singular Form</u>	<u>Plural Form</u>
half	hal <u>ves</u>
leaf	lea <u>ves</u>
thief	thie <u>ves</u>
loaf	loa <u>ves</u>
wolf	wol <u>ves</u>
self	sel <u>ves</u>
shelf	shel <u>ves</u>
knife	kni <u>ves</u>
life	li <u>ves</u>
wife	wi <u>ves</u>

3. Exceptions to the Rule

Some nouns that end in "f" have plurals that can be spelled either way (with just an "s" at the end or by changing the "f" to "v" and adding "es").

<u>Singular Form</u>	<u>Plural Form</u>
wharf	wharf <u>s</u> /whar <u>ves</u>
calf	calf <u>s</u> /cal <u>ves</u>
dwarf	dwarf <u>s</u> /dwar <u>ves</u>
hoof	hoof <u>s</u> /hoo <u>ves</u>