

Lesson Plan

Purr-fect Plurals

Book: *Cats*

Series: Animals

Level: Scout

Objective

To help students practice using singular and plural nouns in sentences, matching each noun to the correct form of the verb.

Supplies

- *Cats* book
- Whiteboard
- Purr-fect Plurals worksheet (attached)

Before the Activity

Read the *Cats* book out loud to students. Print a Purr-fect Plurals worksheet for each student.

Activity

To start, review the concepts of nouns and verbs with students. Use the following definitions from the Scholastic Children's Dictionary:

- A noun is "a word that names a person, place, or thing."
- A verb is "a word that expresses an action or a state of being."

Together, these two kinds of words form the basic parts of a sentence. Every complete sentence has both a noun and a verb. In addition, the noun and the verb in each sentence must match. Some nouns (such as sister, playground, or baseball) are singular. They describe just one person, place, or thing. Other nouns (such as sisters, playgrounds, or baseballs) are plural. They describe a group of people, places, or things. Usually, a singular noun can be made plural by adding an "s" to the end of the word.

Singular nouns must be used with singular verbs. Write the following example sentences on the whiteboard:

- My sister walks to the park.
- The playground fills with kids.
- The baseball zooms through the air.

The verbs in these sentences are singular. They have an “s” at the end. Underline the “s” in each sentence. Plural nouns must be used with plural verbs. Write the following example sentences on the whiteboard:

- My sisters walk to the park.
- The playgrounds fill with kids.
- The baseballs zoom through the air.

The verbs in these sentences are plural. They do not have an “s” at the end. Explain that we usually make verbs plural by taking away the “s.” However, there are some exceptions to this rule. Write the following examples on the whiteboard:

- My dog is afraid of fireworks.
- My dogs are afraid of fireworks.

The word “is” is singular. But the plural form of the verb “is” is “are.” This verb does not follow the usual pattern.

Next, give each student a Purr-fect Plurals worksheet. This worksheet has a list of nouns used in the *Cats* book. Some of the nouns are singular, and some of the nouns are plural. In the space under each noun, students should write a sentence using that noun. They should make sure the verb in their sentence matches the noun. If the noun is singular, the verb should be singular, too. If the noun is plural, the verb should be plural.

Evaluation

Collect students’ papers at the end of the activity. Give students 2 points for each sentence (1 point for writing a complete sentence and 1 point for matching the noun and the verb), for a total of up to 24 points.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards’ language standards, grade 1 (L 1.1).

Purr-fect Plurals

Write a sentence using each noun in the space beneath it. If the noun is singular, the verb should be singular, too. If the noun is plural, the verb should be plural.

1. cat

2. legs

3. tail

4. whiskers

5. faces

6. claws

7. house

8. apartment

9. toys

10. store

11. years

12. pets