

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 124 • SINGULAR AND PLURAL NOUNS: ADDING -S

12 WORD PAIRS • +S

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 67

Grammatical Number • Singular (One) vs. Plural (More Than One)
“The form of a word which means but one is called the **singular form**. Add **-s** to each word so that it means more than one, forming the **plural form**.”

Wheeler's 12 Core Singular Nouns:
lark • road • day • pencil • park • flower • week • picture • brook • street • year • garden

CONCEPT

1

12 Singular → Plural Transformation Matrix

Write the plural form of each singular noun on the guidelines by adding suffix -s:

lark → **larks**

road → **roads**

day → **days**

pencil → **pencils**

park → **parks**

flower → **flowers**

week → **weeks**

picture → **pictures**

brook → **brooks**

street → **streets**

year → **years**

garden → **gardens**

2

Morphophonological Suffix Audition • /s/ vs. /z/

Sort the plural words into those where suffix -s sounds like voiceless /s/ and those where it sounds like voiced /z/:

Voiceless /s/ (after /k, t, p/):
larks, parks, weeks, brooks, streets

Voiced /z/ (after vowels & voiced consonants):
roads, days, pencils, flowers, gardens

3

Plural Context Sentence Completion

Fill in the blanks using plural nouns from this lesson (larks, roads, flowers):

Merry _____ sang along the country _____ lined with sweet wild _____.

Write an original sentence using the plural forms pictures and pencils:

WHEELER'S GRAMMAR RULES • SINGULAR & PLURAL

1. 1. **Definition of Number:** Singular denotes one person, place, or thing; plural denotes more than one. In most English nouns, the plural is formed by simply adding -s.

2. 2. **Voiceless Sound /s/:** When a singular word ends in an unvoiced sound (/k, p, t, f/), the plural suffix -s sounds as crisp voiceless /s/: larks, parks, streets.

3. 3. **Voiced Sound /z/:** When a word ends in a vowel or voiced consonant (/d, l, r, n/), the plural suffix -s assimilates to voiced /z/: roads, days, flowers.

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Lesson 124 • Singular and Plural Nouns • Wheeler Lesson 124

Page 1 of 2 (Student Worksheet)

LESSON 124 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

LESSON 124 • TEACHER MASTER KEY

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 67

SINGULAR FORM	PLURAL FORM	PLURAL SUFFIX SOUND	STEM CODA & PHONIC RULE
lark	larks	/lɑːrks/ (/s/)	Stem ends in voiceless velar stop /k/ → unvoiced /s/
road	roads	/roudz/ (/z/)	Stem ends in voiced alveolar stop /d/ → voiced /z/
day	days	/deɪz/ (/z/)	Stem ends in voiced diphthong /eɪ/ → voiced /z/
flower	flowers	/flaʊ-ərz/ (/z/)	Stem ends in voiced liquid /r/ → voiced /z/

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 1 (12 Plurals):
larks, roads, days, pencils, parks, flowers, weeks, pictures, brooks, streets, years, gardens.

Exercise 2 (Phonetic Sorting):
• Sound /s/: larks, parks, weeks, brooks, streets.
• Sound /z/: roads, days, pencils, flowers, pictures, years, gardens.

Exercise 3 (Context Sentence):
1. larks • roads • flowers.
2. Sample: "The pupils drew beautiful **pictures** with their colored **pencils**."

Grammar Rule: Plural nouns take plural verbs: "Larks *sing*" (never *sings).

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- What is the difference between a singular noun and a plural noun?
- Touch your throat and say 'larks' then 'roads'. Can you feel the vibration in 'roads' that makes -s sound like /z/?
- Why do we just add 's' to 'day' without changing the 'y'? (Vowel before y: ay).

DICTATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- Merry meadow larks sang cheerfully along the quiet country roads.
- The children planted fragrant flowers and vegetables in two large gardens.
- Fifty-two weeks make up one complete year of seasons and study.
- Clear winding brooks flowed gently past the green village parks.