

Regular Plurals

Regular plurals are those words where an 's' is added to show there is more than one:

Singular:

Cake

Toy

Car

Plural:

Cakes

Toys

Cars

How can I help my child develop understanding and use of regular plurals?

- Your child will first need to understand how plurals work. Explain to your child that when there is more than one of something we put a 's' at the end of the word. Give lots of examples within your day to day routines. For example, when getting dressed "one sock, two socks" and when walking to school "one car, two cars"
- Your child may need to link the plural with other words, such as many, lots, tonnes before they learn to identify the plural 's' as being used for more than one.
- Encourage your child to listen carefully for the 's' sound. For example, on a trip to the shop ask your child to go and get 'apple' or 'apples'. If they get this right, say "well done, you got some apples" If they get it wrong, say "thank you for getting one apple. Would you now get me some apples."
- Give your child lots of praise when they remember to use the 's' at the end of words, e.g. "well done, you remembered your 's' sound at the end."
- Use the pictures given to you by your therapist or cut out pictures from magazines, newspapers or catalogues. You can use them to play pairs, snap or lotto games. Make sure you say the word every time you or your child put down or pick up a card, e.g. "One plate", two kites". You could use pictures of curriculum vocabulary which will also aid vocabulary development.
- Practise using plurals in the home. For example, laying the table "put out the cups" or helping with the laundry "find the matching socks".
- Use your child's interests such as football. Talk about how many goals, shirts, players, footballs, boots and so on.

- When out and about talk about what you can see, for example:

- ⇒ swings at the park
- ⇒ bananas in the supermarket
- ⇒ bikes at the school
- ⇒ elephants at the zoo



- Go for a walk around the area / school and name objects using the regular plural.
- Sing classic nursery rhymes together such as 'Ten green bottles'
- Dressing up a dolly or yourselves using things that come in pairs: gloves, socks, shoes.
- Play a colouring game using a figure or a monster. Ask the child to add things onto it and see if they can listen for the plural 's' e.g. 1 eye, 2 eyes. Continue with silly items to make it more fun.

Self Correction

When your child becomes more familiar with using regular plurals prompt them to use them more often. For example, if your child asks for "sock" just give them the one sock. This encourages them to self correct "no, I mean socks!"

Give your child choices "Do you want a grape or grapes?"

Encourage your child to self monitor and self correct. For example, your child says, "Can I have my glove?" You say, "You want a glove? Is that right?"