

Year 4 Using Apostrophes for Possession or Contraction – Guidance for Parents

Activity:

The aim of this activity is for children to practise using apostrophes for possession and contraction. There are three questions to complete. The first two questions allow children to practise the skill, while the third question extends them as they have to apply their learning to get the answer.

Vocabulary:

A **possessive apostrophe** is used to show something belongs to someone or something. **Singular** nouns show possession using an apostrophe followed by an s, for example: the boy's football. **Singular** nouns which end in s follow the same rule, for example: the bus's wheel. **Plural** nouns which end in s show possession using an apostrophe after the s, for example: the childrens' books.

Singular refers to a single noun. For example, 'child' is the singular form of 'children' as it refers to just one.

Plural refers to more than one noun. For example, 'buses' is the plural form of 'bus' as it refers to more than one. Most nouns have both a singular and a plural form.

A **contraction** is a word that has been formed by putting two words together, replacing some letters with an apostrophe, for example 'you are' becomes 'you're'.

Supporting resources:

You can watch the answer explanation video which takes children through this activity and ways to answer it on <https://www.youtube.com/user/ClassroomSecretsLtd/playlists> >> **Year 4 Playlist** >> **Using Apostrophes for Possessions or Contraction Answer Explanation.**

Other resources:

If your child enjoyed this activity and wants to try more activities linked to this learning, you can sign up for £4.83 per month on [classroomsecrets.co.uk/membership](https://www.classroomsecrets.co.uk/membership).

Check out our daily timetable for Year 4 home learning activities on [kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk](https://www.kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk) >> Home Learning Timetable.

Using Apostrophes for Possession or Contraction

1. A. bus's, driver's; B. hamster's; C. girls'
2. Siobhan is incorrect. She has used an apostrophe for contraction (he'd) but she hasn't used an apostrophe for plural possession. She has used an apostrophe for singular possession (bicycle's).
3. Daniel has made three mistakes:
Fred's should be Fred's as it needs an apostrophe for singular possession.
Couldnt should be couldn't because it is a contraction.
Bird's should be birds' because it needs an apostrophe for plural possession not singular possession.