

Name _____

Regular and Irregular Plural Nouns

Plural nouns name more than one person, animal, place, or thing.

- Add *-s* to form the plural of most nouns.
swing/swings animal/animals
- Add *-es* to nouns ending in *ch*, *sh*, *x*, *z*, *s*, and *ss*.
fox/foxes bush/bushes church/churches
- If a noun ends in a vowel and *y*, add *-s*.
monkey/monkeys toy/toys
- If a noun ends in a consonant and *y*, change *y* to *i* and add *-es*.
blueberry/blueberries pony/ponies penny/pennies
- Some nouns have **irregular plural** forms. They change spelling.
woman/women tooth/teeth ox/oxen
- For most nouns that end in *f* or *fe*, change *f* to *v* and add *-es*.
wife/wives wolf/wolves thief/thieves
- Some nouns have the same singular and plural forms.
salmon trout sheep

Directions Underline the plural nouns in each sentence.

1. Some seals live on those beaches.
2. The fishermen in boats near shore caught many salmon.
3. You will see crabs, shells, and driftwood near the water.
4. Don't burn your feet on the hot sand.
5. Clumps of seaweed float on the waves.

Directions Cross out each incorrectly spelled plural noun. Write the correct spelling above the word you crossed out.

6. You can find blueberrys on the bushes near those beaches.
7. The skys over the shore were clear, but we saw cloudes in the distance.
8. The four woman prepared the picnic, and the children played with beach toys.



Home Activity Your child learned about regular and irregular plural nouns. Take a walk and have your child identify people, places, animals, and things in groups. Ask him or her to spell these plural nouns correctly.

Read the passage. Then answer the questions that follow.

Paul Jennings: From Slavery to Freedom

by Merea Brown

1 The life of Paul Jennings began in slavery and ended in freedom. Along the way he lived in the White House and was part of the most famous art rescue in American history. He even wrote a book about his life.

2 Paul Jennings's story begins in Virginia. He was born into slavery at Montpelier, the home of James Madison and his wife, Dolley. In 1809, Mr. Madison became president of the United States. Jennings was about 10 years old.

3 Madison chose Jennings to be a servant in the president's mansion. They moved to Washington, D.C., together. Jennings found the national capital to be "a dreary place." It was hot and boring. Men talked politics all the time. Dolley Madison threw parties, and Jennings worked long hours serving the city's ladies.

4 Then, in 1814, everything changed. The United States was at war with Great Britain, and British soldiers were closing in on Washington, D.C. With President Madison gone to the front lines, Dolley prepared the White House for evacuation. She collected important papers and other valuables to take with her when she and the staff left the mansion.

5 One of the valuable items was a giant portrait of George Washington. Washington had been the first president. The capital was named for him. High on a wall in the White House hung a life-sized painting of him completed by the artist Gilbert Stuart.

6 Dolley grabbed all the silver she could and left the White House just ahead of the British soldiers. On her way out, she instructed Jennings and two other servants to save the painting of Washington.

7 They would need to act quickly. The painting was too high up to reach normally, so Jennings looked around and found a ladder. While Jennings held the ladder steady, another servant climbed up and carefully took the portrait from the wall. He cracked open the frame and removed the canvas.

8 George Washington was saved! Washington, D.C., however, soon swarmed with British soldiers. They were everywhere. In the end, the Americans won the war, and Dolley Madison became a hero for rescuing the famous painting. She later wrote, "I directed my servants in what manner to remove it from the wall, remaining with them until it was done."

9 Paul Jennings knew the truth. Many years later, he wrote a book about his time in the White House. It was the first book written about life in the president's house by someone who had lived there.

10 In his book, Jennings explained about the painting and how he served Mr. and Mrs. Madison after they left the White House. When Mr. Madison died in 1836, Jennings was still enslaved. This time Dolley owned him.

Go On

11 In 1847, Jennings was sold to an important politician named Daniel Webster. The two men had a deal: Jennings would work as Webster's butler, and Webster would free him.

12 So much had already happened to Jennings. He had worked in the White House. He had lived through a war. But now his life started anew. Now he was free.

13 In 1848, Jennings played a quiet role in a bold plan. Seventy-seven black slaves in Washington, D.C., made a plan to escape. Jennings helped one young girl he had known at the Madisons' join the group. Sadly, the plot was discovered, and we do not know what happened to the young girl. The police never knew about Jennings's involvement.

14 Jennings married. He had three sons, all of whom joined the army during the Civil War. During the war, in 1863, a magazine asked Jennings to write about his time with James Madison in the White House.

15 Two years later, the article was published as a book. Historians studying James Madison and slavery still read it today.

16 Paul Jennings died on May 20, 1874. He had lived a long life and knew many important people. None of those people had traveled as far as Jennings, though—all the way from slavery to freedom.

28 According to the article, Paul Jennings's first owner was

- A** James Madison
- B** Dolley Madison
- C** George Washington
- D** Daniel Webster

29 When the author says in paragraph 3 that Washington, D.C., was a "dreary" place, he means that it was

- A** exciting
- B** crowded
- C** uninteresting
- D** dangerous

- 30** Which statement supports the idea that Jennings had an eventful life?
- A** "Paul Jennings's story begins in Virginia."
 - B** "When Mr. Madison died in 1836, Jennings was still enslaved."
 - C** "In 1848, Jennings played a quiet role in a bold plan."
 - D** "None of those people had traveled as far as Jennings, though . . ."

- 31** Read this quotation by Dolley Madison from paragraph 8 of the article.

"I directed my servants in what manner to remove it from the wall, remaining with them until it was done."

Why does the author include this information?

- 32** Read this line from paragraph 9 of the article.

Paul Jennings knew the truth.

By "truth," the author means

- A** the outcome of the Civil War
- B** the real story of saving the Washington portrait
- C** how James Madison performed as president
- D** how the British captured Washington, D.C.

33 Paul Jennings's time in the White House was one of

- A** war and freedom
- B** writing and family
- C** painting and freedom
- D** hard work and war

34 According to the article, Jennings accomplished which of the following?

- A** throwing many parties at Montpelier
- B** painting a portrait of George Washington
- C** writing a book about his own life
- D** fighting in the Civil War

35 How did Daniel Webster change Paul Jennings's life?

- A** He asked Jennings to write a book.
- B** He helped Jennings become free.
- C** He helped Jennings save the portrait.
- D** He discovered a plot to free 77 slaves.

36 Read this sentence from paragraph 13 of the article.

In 1848, Jennings played a quiet role in a bold plan.

Which of the following statements supports the idea that Jennings's role was "quiet"?

- A** A large number of slaves planned to run away.
- B** Jennings helped a young girl join the group.
- C** The slaves were captured before they could get away.
- D** The police never knew that Jennings was involved.

Reading Assignment

This week we will continue reading Esperanza Rising. We will read some of it in class together and students will have some time in class to read independently. Any reading they did not complete in class will have to be read at home.

Tuesday – Chapter 7

Wednesday – Chapter 8

Thursday – Chapter 9