

# Literacy Moments: Improving your English!





# Can you remember what an apostrophe does?

The **apostrophe** indicates either:

- 1. Possession** e.g. Mr. Davis' pen.
- 2. Omission** e.g. Don't (contracted 'do not' do that)

Grammar. The difference between feeling your nuts and feeling you're nuts.



# Practise these!

Those boys' bicycles were stolen outside the store.

Are you going to Max's birthday party on Sunday?

Erika thinks elephants' trunks are extremely interesting.

At the wedding, many of the ladies' dresses matched.

The children's toys are all over the floor!

Julie only likes to cut men's hair.

All of my friends' houses are near the park.

The singer's voice was high-pitched.

I found my sweater's missing button!



# Now practise these...

(You may need to add other punctuation, too!)...

1. Were one of the best teams in the basketball league.

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2. Hes my best friend because he always looks out for my best interest.

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3. Its very important to keep track of your savings.

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4. Stephens basketball was sitting in his car for many months.

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5. Theyre very dependable because they work hard and give good effort.

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6. Can you tell that shes going to be very successful in the future?

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7. One reason that theyll succeed is because they listen well to their teacher.

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8. Well see to it that the work gets completed in a timely manner.

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'its' is the **one exception** to the rule. It **does not use an apostrophe** for the **possessive form**. This is because the **contracted** and **possessive** forms would otherwise look **exactly the same!**

with the apostrophe  
↓

**IT'S**

**Contraction of "it+is" or "it+has"**

It's great to see you.

It's been fun.

It's clear to see.

without the apostrophe  
↓

**ITS**

**Possessive form of "it"**

The tree dropped its leaves.

The pencil lost its point.

A robot recharged its battery.

# Have a go at these questions...

Circle the correct word in each sentence.

**Its** is a possessive pronoun.

**It's** is a contraction that means it is.

The tiger licked **its** **it's** paw.

I wonder if **its** **it's** going to rain tomorrow.

**Its** **It's** time to go to school.



My cat and **its** **it's** kittens are taking a nap.

**Its** **It's** going to be a long walk to the train.

That dress is beautiful! **Its** **It's** color is perfect for you.

I'm glad **its** **it's** sunny outside today.

Your puppy is so cute, what's **its** **it's** name?

Hurry up and catch the train! **Its** **It's** coming!

Have you seen my toy? **Its** **It's** not in **its** **it's** box.



## Task (two minutes):

1. Verbally summarise what you have learned or revised today!
2. Your partner should **check the accuracy** of your understanding, and help you fill in any gaps.
3. Now swap and help the other person!





Somewhat aggressive, but correct nonetheless...!

# BOB'S QUICK GUIDE to **ITS** and **IT'S**, <sup>YOU</sup>IDIOTS

angryflower.com

**ITS** = **IT IS**

THAT'S IT, FOLKS!  
THAT'S ALL Y'GOTTA  
REMEMBER! CAN  
YOU SUBSTITUTE  
"IT IS"? THEN USE  
"IT'S". IF YOU CAN'T,  
DON'T!!!



## EXAMPLE:

*The cat hurt it's feet*

*The cat hurt it is feet.*

**WRONG!**

THIS ONE'S STUPIDLY  
SIMPLE, PEOPLE!!!



an  
**UNWELCOME**  
**EDUCATION**  
product

# Key Words from Today's Session...

**Homophone:** Words that sound the same but are spelled differently and have different meanings.

**Apostrophe:** Punctuation used to indicate possession or contraction.

**Possession:** Something that belongs to someone.

**Omission:** Where letters have been **missed out**.

**Contraction:** Shortened words as a result of omission.