



Possessive apostrophes

A **possessive apostrophe** shows us who or what belongs to somebody or something.

We usually write **the brothers of Madhur** as **Madhur's brothers**,
and we write **the sister of the brothers** as **the brothers' sister**.



The **apostrophe** is always placed after the word that is "owning."
Add an **-s** if it **sounds** necessary.



Write the **friend of Thomas** as **Thomas's friend**.

Rewrite the **phrases** below so that they include a **possessive apostrophe**. The first one has been done for you.

the mango tree of his sister

his sister's mango tree.....

the wives of the men

.....

the beliefs of the tribe

.....

the fruit of the trees

.....

the wisdom of the Ancestor

.....

the roots of the mango tree

.....

the saris of the women

.....

the opinion of my sister

.....

the branches of the tree

.....

the laughter of the children

.....

These **phrases** work in the same way, although you might not think so! Rewrite them.

in the time of three days

in three days' time.....

in the time of one hour

.....

in the time of two weeks

.....



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the trees' fruit

the wisdom of the Ancestor

the Ancestor's wisdom

the roots of the mango tree

the mango tree's roots

the saris of the women

the women's saris

the opinion of my sister

my sister's opinion

the branches of the tree

the tree's branches

the laughter of the children

the children's laughter

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in the time of three days

in three days' time

in the time of one hour

in one hour's time

in the time of two weeks

in two weeks' time

The possessive apostrophe can confuse children. Explain that simple plurals (where no "owning" is involved) do not need apostrophes.