

# Follow up No.2

## (KS2 Module 1- Grammar)

### Making Nouns Plural in French

A nice activity based on The Four Friends is one, which combines classroom instructions with the animal characters. Divide children into four groups and give each group one of the animal characters. Call out a familiar classroom instruction for one of the groups e.g. *Les moutons, levez-vous!* (Sheep, stand up!). For this activity you will need to be aware of how to make singular nouns in French, plural. As in English there is more than one way!

The following provides a guide on how to change French nouns from the singular to the plural.

Nearly all French nouns have a different form for the singular and plural.

In most cases, all you need to do to make a noun plural is to add an **s** to the end. For example: *le lapin, les lapins* (the rabbit, the rabbits) *un lapin, des lapins* (a rabbit, some rabbits). Remember that the 's' at the end is nearly always silent.

When a noun ends in *s, z, or x* **no** change is made. For example *un fils, deux fils* (one son, two sons).

When a noun ends in *al* you usually need to change the ending to *aux*. For example, *le cheval, les chevaux* (the horse, the horses).

When a noun ends in *au, eau, eu*, you usually need to add an **x** **not an s** at the end. For example, *un château, dix châteaux* (one castle, ten castles). There are a few exceptions and most relevant to you is the word *bleu* which becomes *bleus* in the plural. You might use this to cheer on the 'blue team' eg *Allez les bleus!*

When a noun ends in *ou* you usually add an **s** to the end. However there are a few exceptions, which are relevant to the primary classroom. They are: *genou* which becomes *genoux*, (knees), *chou* which becomes *choux* (cabbages) and *hibou* which becomes *hiboux* (owls). You will have noticed that in all these cases an 'x' has been added.

Some nouns are completely different in the plural. For example *un œil* (an eye or one eye) *deux yeux* (two eyes).

