

## APOSTROPHES

### Apostrophes

Apostrophes are used to show omission or possession.

#### PART I: **SHOWING OMISSION**

Use an apostrophe to show that one or more letters is missing in a contraction.

##### Examples:

I + am = I'm

are + not = aren't

there + is = there's

she + is = she's

what + is = what's

can + not = can't

did + not = didn't

would + not = wouldn't

you + are = you're

we + are = we're

you + have = you've

is + not = isn't

#### PART II: **SHOWING POSSESSION**

Use an apostrophe + s ('s) to show possession when a noun does not end in the letter s.

##### Examples:

the house of the family = the family's house

the sister of Patricia = Patricia's sister

#### PART III: **SHOWING POSSESSION WHEN WORDS END WITH S**

Use just an apostrophe ( ' ) to show possession in a noun that ends in the letter s (or ends in an s or z sound).

##### Examples:

the rooms of the girls = the girls' rooms

the books of the students = the students' books

the children of Luz = Luz' children

#### **REMEMBER! DO NOT USE AN APOSTROPHE WITH POSSESSIVE PRONOUNS!**

They already show ownership. Some examples of possessive pronouns are: *his, hers, its, yours, ours, and theirs.*