

# THE PLURAL

Prof.ssa. *Sibilia Mazzau*

How do we form the plural of nouns?

By adding **-S** to the singular:

es. girl (=ragazza) → girl**S**

**NB.**

1. ending in -s, -ss, -ch, -sh, -x, -z, -o: + **-es**

bus (=autobus) → bus**es**

potato (=patata) → potato**es**

BUT: disco(theque) → disco**S**

piano(forte) → piano**S**

2. ending in **consonant** + -y: we substitute y with **-i** + **-es**

lady(=signora) → lady**ies**

3. some nouns ending in -f or -fe: we substitute f with **-v** + **-es**

wolf(=lupo) → wolf**ves**

Do all nouns follow this rule?

No, they don't! Some nouns are **IRREGULAR**, like:

man(=uomo) → **men**      goose(=oca) → **geese**

woman(=donna) → **women**      tooth(=dente) → **teeth**

child(bambino) → **children**      foot(=piede) → **feet**

ox(=bue) → **oxen**      person(=persona) → **people**

mouse(=topo) → **mice**

*Sibilia Mazzau*