Special Plural Nouns:

Like most languages, English has some minor elements that are difficult to learn quickly. The following is a short list of special cases where English grammar defines more than one noun without a countable “s.”

* Words from Old English: These words are pluralized differently because of the old style of grammar that existed in England earlier in history.

- **Ox** = 1
  - **Oxen** = 2 or more

- **Brother** = 1
  - **Brethren** = 2 or more
    - (only when referring to fellow members of a special group.)

- **Child** = 1
  - **Children** = 2 or more

* Words from German: These words are made into unusual plural forms because of their Germanic roots.

- **Goose** = 1
  - **Geese** = 2 or more

- **Mouse** = 1
  - **Mice** = 2 or more

- **Foot** = 1
  - **Feet** = 2 or more

- **Tooth** = 1
  - **Teeth** = 2 or more

- **Woman/Men** = 1
  - **Women/Men** = 2 or more
* Collective nouns: Collective nouns are nouns which can be made up of many individual parts (people, pieces, animals...) but are thought of as one group. You can often pluralize them, but the meaning changes. Here are some examples:

Government = All the people in the government.
Governments = More than one government

Nation = All the people in one nation.
Nations = More than one nation.

Machine = All the parts of a machine.
Machines = More than one machine.

**However:** There are certain animals which are grammatically pluralized as a single unit whether they are individual or together. Here are some common examples:

Deer = 1 OR more
Moose = 1 OR more
Fish = 1 OR more
Sheep = 1 OR more