

# Apostrophes for Contraction

A 'how-to' guide.

# Contractions

Contractions is a fancy name for words that are joined together, they make them shorter.

## Example

did not = didn't  
would not = wouldn't

# Examples of contractions

He's = he is

She's = she is

Haven't = have not

Shouldn't = should not

Wouldn't = would not

They're = they are

They've = they have

# Apostrophe rule

- The apostrophe (') is used to shorten the word.
- In **wouldn't** (**would not**) the apostrophe replaces the 'o' in not.
- In **they're** (**they are**) the apostrophe replaces the 'a' in are.

We might tell the children to imagine the letter flying away into the sky, like a bird!

They <sup>a</sup> re

# Tricky examples

Not all of our contracted words follow the same pattern. Some are exceptions.

Shan't = Shall not

Won't = Will not

# Of or have?

Sometimes people say 'could of' or 'should of'.

They are actually shortening the words 'could have' and 'should have'!

Could've = Could have

Should've = Should have

Many children make this error in their writing. That is because they sound very similar!