

**WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD** by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss
Performed by Louis Armstrong**A lesson about plural count nouns (Chapter 11)****Notes for the Teacher****1. The Song**

Do a search on the Internet to find the song “What a Wonderful World” by Bob Thiele and George David Weiss.

2. Song background

Louis Armstrong is a very famous American jazz musician. He grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana, in an extremely poor family. As he was growing up, he learned to play the trumpet and eventually played on riverboats that sailed on the Mississippi River. Later in his life, he became an influential jazz singer.

“What a Wonderful World” is a beloved song in the English-speaking world. It was first performed in 1967 by Louis Armstrong.

3. Grammar background

This song uses a lot of nouns. Most of them are plural count nouns. Remind students that **count nouns** can be made plural with **-s**, **-es**, or an irregular form. Count nouns are individuals or individual things.

Give a list of ten singular count nouns. Have students write the plural forms on a piece of paper. Then ask a volunteer to write the plural forms on the board.

You can find more information about count nouns in Chapter 11 of *Fundamentals of English Grammar*.

4. Vocabulary

The following is a list of some of the words you may want to discuss in your lesson.

- **rose**: a kind of flower
- **bloom**: when a flower opens up
- **blessed**: special, enjoyable, desirable
- **sacred**: extremely important



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Student Worksheet

While you listen

1. Listen to the song once. How does it make you feel? Make a list of feelings that you experienced while listening to the song.
2. Now listen again for nouns. As you listen, write down all the plural count nouns. You should hear eleven.

After you listen

1. Things to think about and discuss

In pairs, share your answers to these questions:

- Do you ever feel that the world is a wonderful place? When do you feel that way?
- What kind of things make the world wonderful for you?
- Ask a classmate what things make the world beautiful for him or her. Write their name and their answer here.

2. Speaking & Writing

In small groups, or as a whole class, share the answers to the questions above.

Then write your answers to the questions above in a paragraph. For instance, you could write:

I am going to write about different kinds of food that I love. For instance, I love noodles, especially the sound they make when you eat them. I also enjoy dumplings because