

Max the Monkey's Apostrophe Adventure

Learning objective: To understand and use apostrophes for possession and omission in Year 4 English.

Read the story about Max the Monkey below. Identify the words that need apostrophes and add them in the correct places. Then, complete the questions to test your knowledge.

Max the monkey loves to solve puzzles. Max's favourite puzzle is sorting bananas. He doesn't like it when the fruit is bruised. One day, he visited his friend's house to share a snack. The monkey's bowl was empty, so Max said, 'It's a shame we don't have any left.' He couldn't find any more, but he promised he won't give up on finding a treat.

Word bank: Max's · don't · monkey's · it's · couldn't · friend's · won't

1. Find and correct the three possessive apostrophes in the passage. Explain why the apostrophe is needed in each case. (3 marks)

2. Look at the word 'doesn't'. Write down the two words that have been joined together to make this contraction. (1 mark)

3. Write a sentence using an apostrophe for possession to describe something that belongs to Pip the caterpillar. (2 marks)

4. Why does the word 'It's' in the passage have an apostrophe, but the word 'its' (meaning belonging to something) would not? (2 marks)

5. Change this sentence into a contraction: 'I will not go to the park today.' (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting in a tree holding a basket of bananas. Around the tree, draw signs with apostrophes on them, such as 'Max's Tree', 'Monkey's Lunch', and 'Don't Worry'. Make your artwork colourful and bright!



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about what Nova the owl might be doing tonight. Include at least two examples of apostrophes for possession (e.g., Nova's wings) and two examples of contractions (e.g., she's).