

Max's Market Day Maths

Learning objective: To identify and use apostrophes for singular possession and contractions.

Read the story below about Max the monkey. Look carefully at how he uses apostrophes. Then, answer the questions that follow.

Max the monkey was very excited because today was the local village market. He had saved £5.00 in his piggy bank to buy some treats. 'I'm going to find the best fruit,' Max told his friend Pip. Max walked to the farmer's stall. He saw a pile of shiny red apples. 'That apple's price is only 20p,' the farmer said with a smile. Max looked at the stall's colourful sign. It was full of fresh vegetables. He didn't want any carrots, but he did buy a bunch of grapes. 'It's a wonderful day for a snack,' Max cheered. He couldn't wait to share his grapes with his friends at the treehouse.

Word bank: Apostrophe · Possession · Contraction · Singular · Omission

1. Find two examples of contractions in the text and explain which two words they are replacing. (2 marks)

2. Look at the phrase 'the farmer's stall'. Why is there an apostrophe in 'farmer's'? (2 marks)

3. Rewrite this sentence using a contraction: 'Max did not want any carrots.' (1 mark)

4. Find 'stall's' in the text. Does the apostrophe show possession or a contraction? How do you know? (2 marks)

5. Write your own sentence about Max's friend, Ellie the elephant, using an apostrophe for possession. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max at the market stall. Label your drawing using at least two possessive apostrophes (e.g., Max's basket, the apple's colour).



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about a shopping trip to the market. Include at least two examples of apostrophes for possession and two examples of contractions.