

Max's Maths Shop Apostrophes

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

Read the story below about Max the monkey. Look for the apostrophes. Some show that something belongs to someone (possession), and some show where letters are missing (omission). Follow the drawing prompt at the end to show Max's shop in action!

Max the monkey has opened a shop to sell maths puzzles. 'I'm so excited!' Max cheered. He placed a sign above the door that said Max's Shop. Inside, he organised the shelves. The elephant's abacus was on the top shelf, next to the fox's clever clock. 'Don't forget your coins,' Max reminded his friends. 'You'll need £2.50 for a puzzle.' Pip the caterpillar crawled in and bought a book. It's going to be a busy day!

Word bank: possession · omission · contraction · belongs · apostrophe

1. Find two examples of possessive apostrophes in the passage and explain who the items belong to. (2 marks)

2. Identify two contractions from the text (words with apostrophes for omission). Write the two words that make up each contraction. (2 marks)

3. Why does the word 'Max's' in the title have an apostrophe? (1 mark)

4. Rewrite this sentence using a contraction: 'It is time to solve the puzzle.' (1 mark)

5. If Ellie the elephant owns a blue bag, how would you write that using an apostrophe? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max's Maths Shop. Include a sign that says 'Max's Shop'. In your drawing, show the elephant's abacus and the fox's clock. Label your drawing using at least two more possessive apostrophes (e.g., 'Pip's pencil').



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph about another animal visiting the shop. Use at least two contractions (e.g., can't, we're) and one example of possession (e.g., Zara's zebra-striped ruler).