

Max the Monkey's Handwriting Challenge

Learning objective: To increase the legibility, consistency, and quality of handwriting by ensuring the correct size of letters and using diagonal and horizontal strokes to join letters.

Follow the path of the letters carefully. Ensure your ascenders (like l, h, t) and descenders (like g, j, p) are the correct height and depth. Use a sharp pencil and take your time to join your letters smoothly.

Max the monkey was busy preparing for an expedition. He carefully checked his backpack, ensuring he had his notepad, a sturdy pencil, and a wooden ruler. 'Every great explorer needs to keep tidy records,' Max chirped. He sat under the shade of a tall tree and began to write his list. He practised joining his letters with a steady hand, making sure his loops were clear and his letters sat neatly on the line. Being a maths-loving monkey, Max knew that neat handwriting was just like solving a puzzle—everything had to be in the right place to be understood clearly by his friends.

Word bank: adventure · caterpillar · magnificent · telescope · collection · measurement

1. Copy the word 'adventure' onto the line below. Ensure the 'd', 't', and 'h' are all the same height. (2 marks)

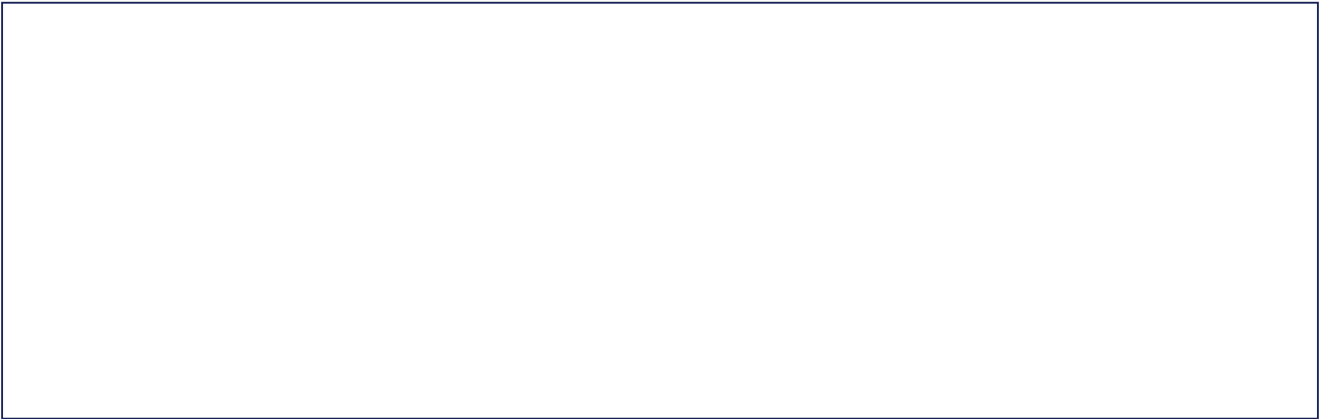
2. Why does Max think that neat handwriting is similar to solving a puzzle? (2 marks)

3. Write a sentence describing what Max keeps in his backpack. Focus on using your best joined-up handwriting. (3 marks)

4. Which letters in the word 'caterpillar' are descenders that should go below the line? (2 marks)

5. Look at your own handwriting. Identify one letter you find tricky to join and practise writing it five times in a row. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey's neat explorer's notebook, showing the list he wrote with his best handwriting.



Extension challenge: Write a short poem about an explorer's journey. Use your best cursive handwriting, ensuring that every letter is joined and the spacing between words is consistent.