

Punctuation Detectives with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To correctly identify and use a range of punctuation, including commas, inverted commas, and apostrophes for possession.

Read the short story below. Max the Monkey has lost his punctuation marks! Add the missing full stops, commas, inverted commas, and apostrophes to make the sentences correct. Then, colour the scene described in the passage.

Max the monkey sat in the jungle holding his favourite banana. He looked at his friend Pips book and asked, Can I read this too? Pip smiled and replied, Of course you can. They sat under the monkeys tree and began to read together. They were so happy that they started to dance in the sunshine.

Word bank: full stop · comma · inverted commas · apostrophe · question mark · exclamation mark

1. Find two words in the passage that need an apostrophe for possession. Write them out correctly with the apostrophe included. (2 marks)

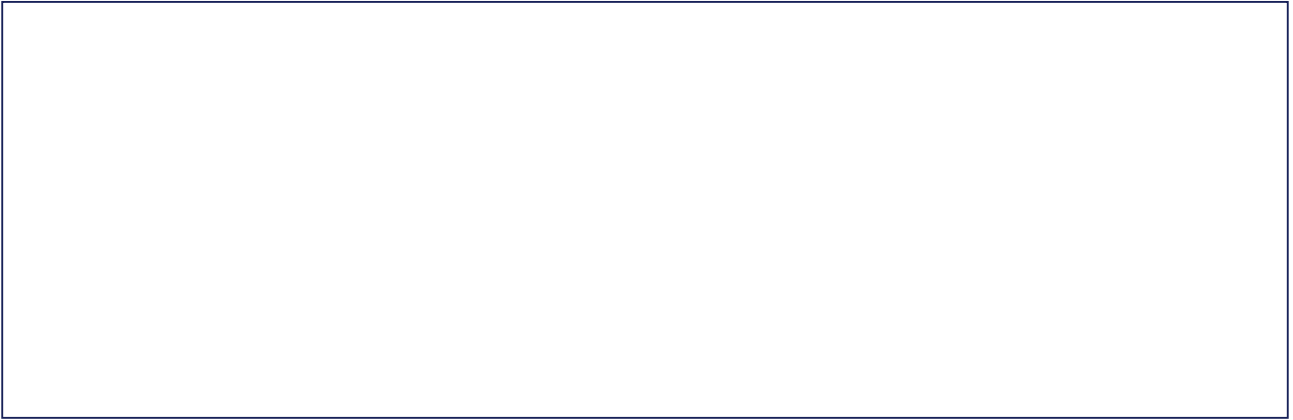
2. Rewrite the sentence 'Can I read this too' adding the correct inverted commas and punctuation mark. (2 marks)

3. Why do we use a comma after the word 'smiled' in the second sentence? (2 marks)

4. Add a full stop to the final sentence in the passage and explain why we need it. (2 marks)

5. Find one example of a plural noun in the passage that does not use an apostrophe. (1 mark)

Draw: A detailed scene showing Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar sitting under a large, leafy jungle tree. Max is holding a bright yellow banana, and Pip is holding an open book. There are colourful tropical flowers and butterflies in the background for the children to colour in.



Extension challenge: Write a short dialogue between Max and Pip about what they are going to eat for lunch. You must include at least one question and use inverted commas correctly for speech.