

# Max's Magnificent Maths Spelling Challenge

*Learning objective: To practise spelling words with common prefixes and suffixes, and to use them correctly in sentences.*

Read the short story about Max the monkey below. Use the word bank to help you fill in the blanks, then complete the questions. Finally, use your imagination to draw a scene from the story!

Max the monkey was feeling quite un\_\_\_\_\_ because he had lost his favourite abacus. He looked everywhere, but it seemed to dis\_\_\_\_\_ into thin air! Max worried he might have done a mis\_\_\_\_\_ when counting his bananas earlier. He felt a bit care\_\_\_\_\_ for leaving it near the river. Suddenly, he heard a rustle in the trees. To his delight, his abacus began to re\_\_\_\_\_! His friend, a thought\_\_\_\_\_ fox named Kit, had found it and brought it back just in time for their maths lesson.

*Word bank: disappear · miscalculate · unhappy · reappear · careless · thoughtful*

**1. Which word from the passage describes how Max felt at the start of the story? Explain why he felt this way. (2 marks)**

---

---

**2. Find the word in the passage that means the opposite of 'appear'. (1 mark)**

---

---

**3. Why does Max think he might have made a 'miscalculate'? Write a sentence explaining the situation. (2 marks)**

---

---

**4. What does the suffix '-less' mean in the word 'careless'? Use it in a new sentence of your own. (2 marks)**

---

---

**5. If Max had been 'thoughtful' instead of 'careless', where might he have put his abacus to keep it safe? (2 marks)**

---

---

---

**Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey and Kit the fox sitting under a tree together. Show Max looking very happy to have his abacus back in his hands!**



*Extension challenge: Choose two words from the word bank and write a short, rhyming poem about a monkey who loves solving puzzles.*