

# Max's Magical Market Algebra

*Learning objective: To use simple algebraic expressions to find unknown values and solve missing number problems.*

Help Max the monkey calculate the prices at the forest market. Use a letter to represent the unknown number of items. For example, if one apple costs £2, then 3 apples cost  $3 \times £2$ . If we don't know how many apples, we write  $3a$ .

Max is running a fruit stall today. He sells shiny red apples for £2 each and crunchy carrots for £3 each. Max likes to use maths to keep his stall organised. He says, 'If I have 'a' apples, the total price is  $2 \times a$ . If I have 'c' carrots, the total price is  $3 \times c$ .' Today, Max has a basket of apples and a bundle of carrots. He needs your help to work out the total cost for his customers.

*Word bank: expression · variable · unknown · calculate · value · equation · symbol*

**1. Max sells apples for £2 each. Write an expression to show the cost of 'a' apples. If a customer buys 5 apples, how much do they pay? (2 marks)**

---

---

**2. Carrots cost £3 each. Max has 'c' carrots. Write an expression for the total cost. How much would 7 carrots cost? (2 marks)**

---

---

**3. A customer buys 3 apples and 2 carrots. Using your expressions, calculate the total cost in pounds (£). (2 marks)**

---

---

**4. Max has an equation:  $2 \times a = £10$ . How many apples (a) does he have? (1 mark)**

---

---

**5. If  $3 \times c = £12$ , what is the value of 'c'? Explain how you found your answer. (2 marks)**

---

---

---

**Draw:** Draw a basket containing 'a' apples and 'c' carrots, and label them with their prices.



*Extension challenge: Max decides to sell a 'Fruit Bundle' which contains 2 apples and 3 carrots. Write an expression for the cost of one bundle. If a customer buys 4 bundles, how much is the total?*