

Mastering Cursive with Max

Learning objective: To understand and apply the rules of joined-up handwriting, including correct letter formation and the use of joins.

Max the monkey loves maths, but he knows that neat handwriting is the key to solving puzzles clearly! Read the questions carefully and use your best cursive handwriting to answer them.

Word bank: ascender · descender · cursive · baseline · join

1. What is the name for the style of handwriting where letters are joined together, and why is it useful for writing quickly? (2 marks)

2. In handwriting, what do we call a letter that has a part that goes up (like 'h' or 'k') and a letter that has a part that goes down (like 'g' or 'y')? (2 marks)

3. Max is writing the word 'apple'. Which letters in this word should start with a lead-in stroke from the baseline? (2 marks)

4. Why is it important to keep your letters sitting on the baseline rather than floating above it? (1 mark)

5. Identify two letters that are tricky to join to the next letter because they end at the top of the line. How do you solve this? (2 marks)

6. Imagine you are writing a letter to a friend. Which three things should you check to make sure your handwriting is easy for them to read? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey holding a giant pencil, writing his name in beautiful, curly cursive letters on a banner.



Extension challenge: Write a short sentence about your favourite hobby using your neatest joined-up handwriting. Ensure all your ascenders and descenders are the correct height!