

Max the Monkey's Christmas Surprise

Learning objective: To write a short Christmas story using a clear beginning, middle, and end.

Read the opening sentence below. Use the questions to help you plan and write your own festive story about Max the monkey finding a special gift in the jungle.

Max the monkey woke up on Christmas morning and saw that the jungle was covered in a magical, shimmering frost.

Word bank: suddenly · brightly · next · happily · finally · under the tree · sparkling · cheerfully · then · because

1. The Beginning: What did Max find hidden under the big banana tree? Start your sentence with: 'He peeked behind the leaves and saw...' (2 marks)

2. The Middle: How did Max feel when he opened his surprise? Start your sentence with: 'Max felt so excited because...' (2 marks)

3. The Middle: Who did Max decide to share his discovery with? Start your sentence with: 'He quickly called his friend...' (2 marks)

4. The Ending: How did they celebrate their Christmas afternoon? Start your sentence with: 'They spent the rest of the day...' (2 marks)

5. Reflect: What was the best part of Max's Christmas day? Start your sentence with: 'The best part was...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you add an adjective to describe the gift Max found? For example, instead of 'box', could you write 'shiny, red box'?