

Max's Punctuation Picnic

Learning objective: To identify and use capital letters, full stops, and question marks correctly in sentences.

Read the story about Max the monkey below. Think about how the punctuation helps you understand the story, then answer the questions.

Max the monkey was very hungry. He decided to pack a picnic for his friends. First, he put three red apples into his basket. Then, he added a large bunch of yellow bananas. Max looked at his basket and smiled. 'Is there enough fruit for everyone?' he asked. He felt very happy. Suddenly, a little bee flew by. It was Bea! She landed on a juicy strawberry. Max laughed because he knew Bea loved sweet treats. He carefully wrote a note for his friends. He made sure to start his sentences with a capital letter. He also remembered to put a full stop at the end of each statement. When he finished, he added a question mark to his final question. Punctuation is like a map for reading, Max thought. It helps us know when to stop and when to ask something. Now, the picnic could finally begin. Max and Bea sat under the big oak tree to eat their lunch. It was a perfect sunny day for a feast in the forest.

Word bank: capital letter · full stop · question mark · sentence · punctuation

1. What three items did Max put in his picnic basket first? (2 marks)

2. What punctuation mark did Max use at the end of his question? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Max chose to write a note for his friends? (2 marks)

4. How do we know that Max is a careful monkey? (2 marks)

5. Do you think punctuation is helpful when you read? Why or why not? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey and Bea the bee having their picnic under the big oak tree. Show the fruit in the basket.



Extension challenge: Write your own short sentence about your favourite fruit. Remember to start with a capital letter and end with a full stop!