

Mastering Apostrophes with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To understand and correctly apply apostrophes for both possession and contraction, as per the Class 5 National Curriculum.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of apostrophes. Max the Monkey has hidden some tricky puzzles! Read the front of the card, try to answer, then check the back to see if you are correct.

What is the primary function of an apostrophe in a contraction?	Write the contraction for 'do not'.
To show that letters have been omitted (left out) when two words are joined together.	don't
What does an apostrophe show when used for possession?	Where does the apostrophe go in the possessive form of the singular noun 'Max'?
That something belongs to someone or something.	Max's (after the noun, before the s).
How do you write the possessive form for a plural noun that ends in 's' (e.g., teachers)?	Identify the error: 'The monkeys banana was yellow.'
teachers' (place the apostrophe after the s).	It should be 'monkey's' because the banana belongs to the monkey.
What is the contraction for 'we are'?	Where do you place the apostrophe for the plural possessive of 'children'?
we're	children's (because 'children' is an irregular plural that does not end in s).
True or False: Possession for singular nouns always requires an 's' after the apostrophe.	Write the contraction for 'it is'.
True (e.g., the cat's tail).	it's
Which word is correct: 'The tree's leaves' or 'The trees' leaves'?	Why do we use an apostrophe in 'shouldn't'?
Both can be correct depending on if there is one tree (tree's) or many trees (trees').	To show the 'o' in 'not' has been omitted.