Max and Zara's Guide to Creative Writing

Unlock Your Imagination: Adventure Awaits at the Tip of Your Pencil!

■ Every great story needs a setting. Can you describe where your story takes place using at least two descriptive adjectives?

■ Create a character with a goal. What is the one thing your main character wants more than anything else in the world?

■ Add a 'hook' at the start. How can you begin your sentence with a fronted adverbial to grab the reader's attention immediately?

■ Use your senses. Don't just tell us what happened; show us using sounds and smells. Which onomatopoeia words can you include?

■ Build the tension. What is the main problem or 'puzzle' that Max the monkey needs to solve before the story ends?

■ Choose your vocabulary carefully. Use a thesaurus to find a more exciting word to replace 'said' or 'went'.

Did you know? Did you know that the most famous stories ever written started as tiny sparks of ideas? Just like Zara, who sees patterns in nature, writers look for 'story seeds' in the world around them—like a strange shadow in the garden or a mysterious sound in the attic—to help their stories grow into something brilliant!

Key vocabulary: adjectives · alliteration · conjunctions · fronted adverbials · characterisation · onomatopoeia