Apostrophe Adventures with Pip the Bookworm

Master the Mark: Don't let your punctuation lose its way!

■ **Contractions: When two words join to become one, the apostrophe replaces the missing letters. For example, 'do not' becomes 'don't' and 'I am' becomes 'I'm'.**

■ **Singular Possession: To show something belongs to one person or thing, add an apostrophe followed by an 's'. Example: 'Pip's favourite book'.**

■ **Plural Possession (ending in s): If a plural noun already ends in 's', just add the apostrophe after the 's'. Example: 'The foxes' den'.**

■ **Plural Possession (not ending in s): If the plural noun does not end in 's', add an apostrophe then an 's'. Example: 'The children's library'.**

■ **Watch out for 'its' vs 'it's'! 'It's' is a contraction for 'it is'. 'Its' shows possession (like a dog wagging its tail) and never uses an apostrophe.**

Did you know? Did you know? The word 'apostrophe' comes from the Greek language and means 'turning away' or 'elision'. It tells the reader that something has been left out or that something belongs to a person or object!

Key vocabulary: Contraction · Possession · Omission · Singular · Plural · Punctuation