

A Review of The Great Forest Mystery

Learning objective: To understand the features of a book review and identify the author's opinions.

Read the book review below carefully, then answer the questions that follow in full sentences.

Max the monkey recently finished reading 'The Great Forest Mystery', a thrilling adventure story set in the deep jungle. The story follows a brave squirrel named Nutmeg who discovers a hidden map inside an old, hollow oak tree. Max loved how the author built suspense, especially during the scene where Nutmeg had to cross the rickety rope bridge while a storm approached. Max thought the descriptions of the jungle were very colourful and made him feel like he was right there beside the characters. Although he found the middle of the book a little bit slow, the exciting ending made up for it. Max would recommend this book to anyone who loves mysteries and fast-paced journeys. He thinks it is perfect for children who enjoy reading about animals working together to solve puzzles. Max gave the book four out of five stars because he wished the story had been a few chapters longer! He cannot wait to see if the author writes a sequel about Nutmeg's next big expedition. Overall, it was a fantastic read that kept him guessing until the very last page.

Word bank: recommend · suspense · character · adventure · opinion · plot

1. What item did Nutmeg find inside the hollow oak tree? (1 mark)

2. How many stars did Max give this book and why? (2 marks)

3. Why might Max have felt like he was 'right there' in the jungle? (2 marks)

4. How did Max feel about the middle section of the book compared to the ending? (2 marks)

5. Do you think Max enjoyed the book overall? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Nutmeg the squirrel standing on the rope bridge during the storm, just like Max described in his review.



Extension challenge: Write a short book review for your favourite storybook. Remember to include your opinion, a small summary of the plot, and a star rating out of five.