

Creating Amazing Characters with Max the Monkey

Be a word detective! Use these tips to help your characters come to life on the page.

- **Start with their appearance.** What do they look like? Use adjectives like 'tall', 'curly', or 'shiny' to paint a picture.
- **Think about their personality.** Are they kind, grumpy, brave, or shy? This helps the reader understand how they feel.
- **Use expanded noun phrases to add detail.** For example, instead of 'the dog', try 'the fluffy, golden dog with a wagging tail'.
- **Give them a special item.** Does your character carry a battered leather bag, a colourful scarf, or a lucky silver coin?
- **Show, don't just tell!** Instead of saying 'she was happy', describe her 'beaming smile' and the 'joyful skip in her step'.

Did you know? Did you know? Authors often think about what a character does in their spare time to help decide what they look like. If your character loves climbing trees, they might have messy hair and sturdy boots!

Key vocabulary: adjective · appearance · personality · expanded noun phrase · character · description