Max’s Coordinate Quest

Learning objective: To describe positions on a 2D grid as coordinates in the first quadrant and plot points using (x, y) notation.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of coordinates. Remember Max the Monkey's golden rule: 'Along the corridor, then up the stairs!'

What is the x-axis?

The horizontal line on a coordinate grid that goes from left to right.

What is the y-axis?

The vertical line on a coordinate grid that goes from bottom to top.

How do you write a coordinate pair?

(x, y), where the first number shows the position on the x-axis and the second shows the position on the y-axis.

What is the origin?

The point (0, 0) where the x-axis and y-axis meet.

If Max is at (3, 5), how many steps did he take along the corridor and up the stairs?

3 steps along the x-axis and 5 steps up the y-axis.

True or False: (2, 4) is the same position as (4, 2).

False. They are different positions; (2, 4) is further left, while (4, 2) is further right and lower down.

Explain why we must follow the order (x, y) when plotting points.

To ensure consistency so that everyone locates the exact same point on the grid.

A point sits directly on the y-axis at height 6. What are its coordinates?

(0, 6).

Compare and contrast a coordinate grid to a map.

Both use a system of lines to locate specific positions; grids use numerical coordinates while maps often use grid references or landmarks.

Justify your answer: Does moving from (1, 1) to (1, 5) create a horizontal or vertical line?

Vertical, because the x-coordinate stays the same while the y-coordinate increases.

What might happen if you swapped the x and y values when plotting a treasure map?

You would end up at a completely different location, meaning you would miss the treasure!

If you plot (1, 2), (1, 4), and (3, 3), what shape do they form when joined?

A triangle.