

Max's Adventure Orienteering Challenge

Learning objective: To develop spatial awareness and map-reading skills through outdoor navigation and decision-making.

Max the monkey is organising an outdoor orienteering race in the school grounds! You must help him plan the route. Use the grid provided in your imagination to place five checkpoints (A, B, C, D, and E). Read the clues below to determine where each checkpoint should be located to ensure a fair and challenging race. For each checkpoint, calculate the cost of the safety equipment required for that station.

Word bank: North · South · East · West · Compass · Coordinates · Topography · Navigation · Obstacle · Safety

1. Checkpoint A must be at the most Northern point of the field. If the safety flag costs £4.50, and you need to buy 3, what is the total cost? Show your working. (2 marks)

2. Checkpoint B is 10 metres East of the ancient oak tree. Explain why a clear line of sight is essential when placing orienteering markers in a woodland area. (2 marks)

3. Checkpoint C is near the pond. If a waterproof map case costs £2.75, justify why it is a necessary expense for this outdoor adventure. (2 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the skills needed to navigate a flat school field versus a hilly forest trail. Which poses more of a challenge? (2 marks)

5. Checkpoint D costs £12.00 to set up. Checkpoint E costs £8.50. Calculate the total cost for both. If you have a budget of £25.00, how much change will you have left? (2 marks)

6. What might happen if the participants ignored the compass bearings provided by Max and chose their own path through the dense shrubs? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a bird's-eye view map of your school playground. Include a compass rose in the corner, label your five checkpoints (A-E), and illustrate one natural or man-made obstacle that runners must navigate around.



Extension challenge: Design a 'Safety Checklist' for future explorers. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why physical activity in the outdoors is beneficial for both mental well-being and physical fitness, using at least four words from the word bank.