

A Winter Celebration with Max and Pip

Learning objective: To retrieve information from a text and make simple inferences about Christmas traditions.

Read the story below. Use the word bank to help you understand the words. Answer the questions in the boxes provided.

Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar were getting ready for Christmas. Outside, the winter air was cold, but inside their home, it felt warm and cosy. They had put up a small tree in the corner. Max carefully hung shiny baubles on the branches. He liked to count them as he went. Pip was busy writing special cards for their friends. He chose his favourite words to write inside, like 'joy' and 'kindness'.

They decided to bake some ginger biscuits to share. Max measured the flour and sugar to make sure the maths was perfect. They spent the afternoon wrapping small gifts in colourful paper. They did not have much money, only £5 to spend, but they had bought little treats for everyone. Max and Pip loved this tradition because it was not about the things they got, but about being together. As the stars came out, they sat by the window and felt very happy. It was a time to be generous and kind to all their friends in the forest.

Word bank: tradition: a special activity done every year · generous: being kind and giving to others · decoration: something used to make a place look pretty · celebrate: to have a party or a happy time

1. What two things did Max and Pip do to get ready for Christmas? (2 marks)

2. How much money did Max and Pip spend on their gifts? (1 mark)

3. Why do you think Pip chose the words 'joy' and 'kindness' for his cards? (2 marks)

4. How do Max and Pip feel about Christmas? Give a reason from the text. (2 marks)

5. Do you think it is important to give gifts to friends? Why or why not? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey and Pip the caterpillar decorating their Christmas tree together.



Extension challenge: Write a list of three kind things you could do for a friend or family member this Christmas.