

# Mastering the Mighty Apostrophe with Pip the Bookworm

Pinpoint your punctuation: Unlock the secrets of the apostrophe!

- **Apostrophes for Omission:** When two words are joined to make a contraction, the apostrophe replaces the missing letters. For example: 'do not' becomes 'don't'.
- **Apostrophes for Possession:** If something belongs to one person or thing, add an apostrophe followed by an s. Example: 'Pip's favourite book'.
- **Plural Possession:** If a noun is plural and ends in s, place the apostrophe after the s. Example: 'The explorers' map showed the way'.
- **Irregular Plurals:** If a plural noun does not end in s, such as 'children' or 'mice', add an apostrophe and an s. Example: 'The children's library'.
- **The 'It Is' Rule:** Always distinguish between 'it's' (meaning 'it is' or 'it has') and 'its' (which shows possession and never takes an apostrophe).

*Did you know? Did you know? The word 'apostrophe' comes from the Ancient Greek word 'apostrophos', which means 'turning away' or 'elision'. Just like Pip the Bookworm nibbling a hole in a leaf, an apostrophe shows where a letter has been 'nibbled away' to create a contraction!*

**Key vocabulary:** Contraction · Possession · Omission · Singular · Plural · Punctuation