

Detective Work with Kit the Fox

Learning objective: To make inferences by using clues from text and personal knowledge to understand character motivations and settings.

Kit the Fox has left behind a series of 'Evidence Logs' from his latest investigations. Read each short scenario carefully. Use the 'Detective's Toolkit' word bank to identify the inference that explains what is happening. Write your reasoning for each choice, explaining how the clues led you to that conclusion.

Word bank: nervousness · excitement · preparation · exhaustion · regret · determination

1. Scenario 1: Pip the caterpillar keeps checking his watch, pacing back and forth in front of the library door, and tapping his foot rhythmically. Which word from the bank best describes Pip's state, and what clues tell you this? (2 marks)

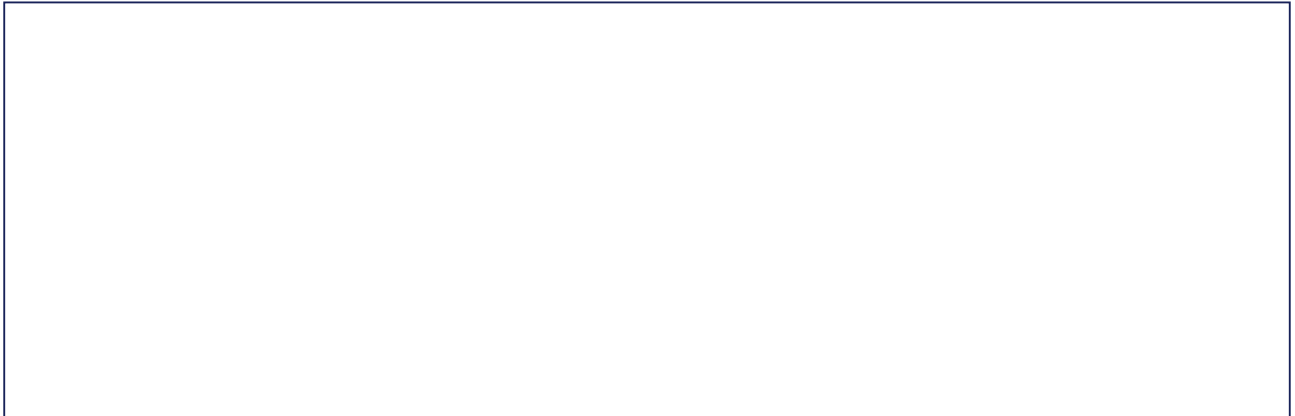
2. Scenario 2: Zara the zebra is covered in charcoal smudges, her studio is filled with crumpled sketches, and she is staring intensely at a blank canvas with a steady, focused gaze. Which word best describes her, and why? (2 marks)

3. Scenario 3: Max the monkey is carefully sorting his collection of shiny pebbles into groups of five, checking his list twice, and packing his satchel with a compass and a map. What is he doing, and what clues support this? (2 marks)

4. Scenario 4: Leo the lion has finished writing a long poem, but he is sighing deeply, rubbing his eyes, and resting his head on his desk as the sun sets. What can you infer about his day? (2 marks)

5. Scenario 5: Ellie the elephant is looking at an old, faded photograph of a mountain range. She is smiling softly, but a single tear rolls down her cheek as she touches the frame. What does this suggest about her memory? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring one of the characters above in a setting that provides 'visual clues' about their personality or current activity (e.g., Nova the owl surrounded by star charts and telescopes).



Extension challenge: Write your own 'Evidence Log' for Finn the dolphin. Write three clues about his behaviour without naming his emotion, then see if a partner can infer how he is feeling.