

The Great Bonfire Night Planning Challenge

Learning objective: To apply mathematical reasoning and historical understanding to plan a safe and community-focused Bonfire Night celebration.

Max the monkey is helping his village prepare for their annual Bonfire Night celebration. Use the budget and the historical information provided to solve the puzzles below. You must justify your choices using your knowledge of costs and safety.

Word bank: budget · safety · commemoration · expenditure · pyrotechnics · community · tradition · proportions

1. The village has a total budget of £450.00 for the event. If they spend £175.50 on fireworks and £120.25 on hot food, how much money remains for safety equipment and decorations? Show your calculation. (2 marks)

2. Max suggests buying 40 sparklers at £0.45 each. Does this fit within a remaining budget of £150.00? Explain why this is a good or poor use of funds. (2 marks)

3. Bonfire Night commemorates the failure of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605. If a historian wanted to create a display explaining this, why might they include both a Guy Fawkes effigy and a safety poster? Compare the two. (3 marks)

4. If the village expects 120 guests and each guest eats two jacket potatoes, how many potatoes must they buy? If potatoes cost £0.35 each, what is the total cost for the potatoes? (3 marks)

5. Justify your answer: Why is it important for the village to prioritise safety equipment expenditure over extra fireworks? Consider the risks involved in a public display. (3 marks)

6. What might happen if the village council ignored the historical significance of the event and focused only on the profit made from selling tickets? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a map of a safe bonfire display area, including clearly marked zones for spectators, the bonfire, and a 'safety barrier' to protect the public. Label your zones with measurements or distances.



Extension challenge: Write a short, persuasive speech (100 words) from the perspective of Max the monkey, explaining to the village council why the 'Remember, Remember' tradition is still relevant to the community today.