Character Description: Meeting Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use adjectives and descriptive phrases to build a character profile.

Read the passage about Max the Monkey. Look for the descriptive words used to tell us what he looks like and how he behaves. Then, answer the questions below to show your understanding.

Max is a small, energetic monkey with soft, golden-brown fur that looks like toasted oats in the morning sun. He has bright, twinkling eyes that dart around the forest, always looking for a new maths puzzle to solve. Max is very nimble; he can swing from the highest branches of the ancient oak trees using his long, curly tail to balance. He wears a tiny, knitted blue waistcoat that he found in a hollow trunk. Max is not just fast; he is a deep thinker who loves to count the petals on flowers and measure the distance between the stars. Even when he is busy, he always stops to help his friends if they need a clever solution.

Word bank: enthusiastic · curious · energetic · furry · nimble · patterned · thoughtful · mischievous

1. Find two adjectives in the text used to describe Max’s fur. (2 marks)

2. What does Max wear and where did he find it? (2 marks)

3. Explain why the author describes Max’s eyes as 'twinkling'. What does this tell us about his personality? (3 marks)

4. Max loves maths. Give an example from the text of how he uses maths in his daily life. (2 marks)

5. If Max were to go to the shop to buy a new notebook for his puzzles, and it cost £2.50, how much change would he get from a £5.00 note? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey swinging from a tree branch. Make sure to include his blue waistcoat and show his 'twinkling' eyes!

Extension challenge: Write three sentences describing a new friend for Max. Use at least one adjective to describe their appearance and one to describe their personality.