Max’s Maths and Logic Challenge

Learning objective: To develop verbal reasoning skills by identifying patterns, solving word puzzles, and explaining logical conclusions.

Help Max the monkey solve these word puzzles. Read each question carefully, look for the hidden pattern, and use your best reasoning to explain your answer.

Max the monkey was looking at a set of number words and noticed that they all followed a secret rule: One, Two, Three, Four, Five.

Word bank: because · therefore · consequently · the pattern is · in addition · on the other hand · this suggests that · similarly

1. Max has a sequence of words: 'Apple, Banana, Cherry, Date'. What is the next word in the sequence if it follows alphabetical order? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

2. If 'Cat' is to 'Kitten' and 'Dog' is to 'Puppy', what is 'Horse' to? Describe the relationship between these pairs. (2 marks)

3. Max says: 'If all monkeys eat fruit, and I am a monkey, then I must eat fruit.' Is this a logical conclusion? Why or why not? (2 marks)

4. Look at these coins: 50p, £1, £2. What comes next in this sequence of British currency? Explain your choice. (2 marks)

5. Create your own word puzzle for a friend to solve. Write the sequence and the rule you used to create it. (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you create a 'find the odd one out' puzzle using four items found in a classroom, and write a sentence explaining why one of them does not belong?