Max and Zara’s Bonfire Night Poetry Workshop

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases and ambitious vocabulary to create descriptive poetry about Bonfire Night.

Max the monkey has collected a list of interesting things to see and hear on Bonfire Night. Zara the zebra wants you to help her turn these into a poem. Use the word bank to help you write descriptive sentences (expanded noun phrases) for the poem. Remember to use adjectives to describe the colour, sound, and movement of the fireworks.

Word bank: dazzling · crackling · vibrant · whistling · shimmering · booming · golden · twinkling · spectacular · rhythmic

1. Max sees a rocket shooting into the sky. Write an expanded noun phrase to describe it. Example: The dazzling, golden rocket. (2 marks)

2. Zara hears the fireworks making noise. Describe the sound using a powerful verb and an adverb. Example: The firework boomed loudly. (2 marks)

3. Compare and contrast: How is the 'whistling' sound of a firework different from the 'booming' sound? Justify your answer using descriptive language. (3 marks)

4. Explain why it is important to use adjectives when writing poetry about a celebration. (2 marks)

5. What might happen if the fireworks were silent? Describe the scene in one imaginative sentence. (2 marks)

6. If a box of sparklers costs £4 and a pack of glow sticks costs £2, how much would you spend to buy both? If you pay with a £10 note, how much change would you get? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a vibrant scene of a night sky filled with the fireworks you described in your poem. Ensure you show the colours and patterns you have chosen.

Extension challenge: Compose a four-line poem about Bonfire Night. Try to include at least one simile (e.g., 'The firework sparkled like a diamond in the dark') and one alliteration (e.g., 'bright, booming bangs').