A Day in the Life: Diary Writing with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use the first-person perspective, chronological order, and time conjunctions to write a recount in the form of a diary entry.

Imagine you are Max the Monkey. Today, you spent your morning solving maths puzzles in the jungle and your afternoon helping your friends. Use the prompts below to write your own diary entry. Remember to use 'I' and write in the past tense.

Dear Diary, I cannot believe what an incredible day I have had in the jungle today!

Word bank: firstly · after that · meanwhile · suddenly · eventually · before long · later that day · luckily · finally

1. The Morning: What was the first puzzle you tried to solve? Start with: 'When I woke up, I decided to...' (2 marks)

2. The Middle: What happened when you were busy working? Start with: 'While I was counting the coconuts, suddenly...' (2 marks)

3. The Challenge: Did you find any tricky problems? Start with: 'I found it quite difficult when...' (2 marks)

4. The Outcome: How did you feel once the puzzles were finished? Start with: 'By the end of the afternoon, I felt...' (2 marks)

5. Refining the Entry: Add one sentence about what you want to do tomorrow. Start with: 'I am looking forward to...' (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you include a price in your diary? For example, mention that you found a shiny coin worth £2.50 or that you bought a bunch of bananas for 80p to share with your friends.