Writing a Playscript with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To use the features of a playscript, including character names, stage directions, and dialogue.

Max the Monkey is planning a theatre show about his latest maths puzzle! Use this frame to write your own scene. Remember to put character names on the left, use a colon to separate names from speech, and put stage directions in brackets.

Max: (Staring at a pile of scattered wooden blocks) If I have twelve blocks and take away four, how many will remain in the pile?

Word bank: suddenly · excitedly · meanwhile · whispering · afterwards · clutching the map · looking puzzled · triumphantly

1. Setting the Scene: At the start of your script, describe where your characters are and what they are doing. Begin with: The scene is set in... (2 marks)

2. Introducing Characters: Introduce two characters who are about to start a conversation. Begin with: [Character Name] enters the room and says... (2 marks)

3. Adding Stage Directions: Write a line of dialogue for your character that includes a stage direction about how they are moving or feeling. Begin with: [Name]: (Action or feeling in brackets)... (2 marks)

4. The Problem: Describe the problem your characters are trying to solve. Begin with: Oh no! We seem to have a problem because... (2 marks)

5. The Resolution: How do the characters solve the puzzle? Begin with: I have an idea! If we... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you add a 'Prop List' at the very top of your script to tell the stage crew which items are needed for your scene?