Max’s Word Puzzle Challenge: Verbal Reasoning Investigation

Learning objective: To develop verbal reasoning skills by identifying patterns, finding synonyms, and decoding word relationships.

Max the monkey loves to find the patterns hidden in words! Use your detective skills to complete this puzzle sheet. Read each task carefully and think about how words are connected by their meanings, spellings, or categories.

Word bank: Synonym · Antonym · Category · Relationship · Pattern · Clue

1. The Odd One Out: Look at this group of words: [Apple, Banana, Carrot, Pear]. Which word does not belong in this category and why? (2 marks)

2. Synonym Search: Max needs a synonym for the word 'Happy'. Write down three different words that mean the same thing, then use one of them in a sentence. (3 marks)

3. Antonym Match: Write the opposite (antonym) for these three words: 1. Bright, 2. Fast, 3. Heavy. (3 marks)

4. Word Relationships: If 'Bird' is to 'Nest', then 'Dog' is to '_____'. Explain the relationship between these two pairs. (2 marks)

5. Code Breaker: If the word 'CAT' is coded as 'DBU' (the next letter in the alphabet), how would you code the word 'DOG' using the same pattern? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Can you create your own 'Odd One Out' puzzle for a friend? Choose four words where one is different, and write the answer on the back of your sheet.