

Max and Zara's Bonfire Night Poetry Workshop

Learning objective: To use expanded noun phrases and sensory vocabulary to compose descriptive poetry inspired by Bonfire Night.

Max the monkey is trying to turn the sounds and sights of Bonfire Night into a mathematical pattern of words. Zara the zebra wants to capture the vibrant colours and textures. Use the word bank to help you complete the poetic phrases below. You must include at least one expanded noun phrase (adjective + adjective + noun) in your answers.

Word bank: crackling · glistening · vibrant · shimmering · thunderous · velvet · fiery · sparkling · distant · rhythmic

1. Describe the fireworks exploding in the night sky using an expanded noun phrase. Why did you choose these specific adjectives to represent the movement of the light? (2 marks)

2. Max hears the bonfire burning. Write a line describing the sound using onomatopoeia and at least one word from the bank. Justify why this sound is essential to the atmosphere of the evening. (2 marks)

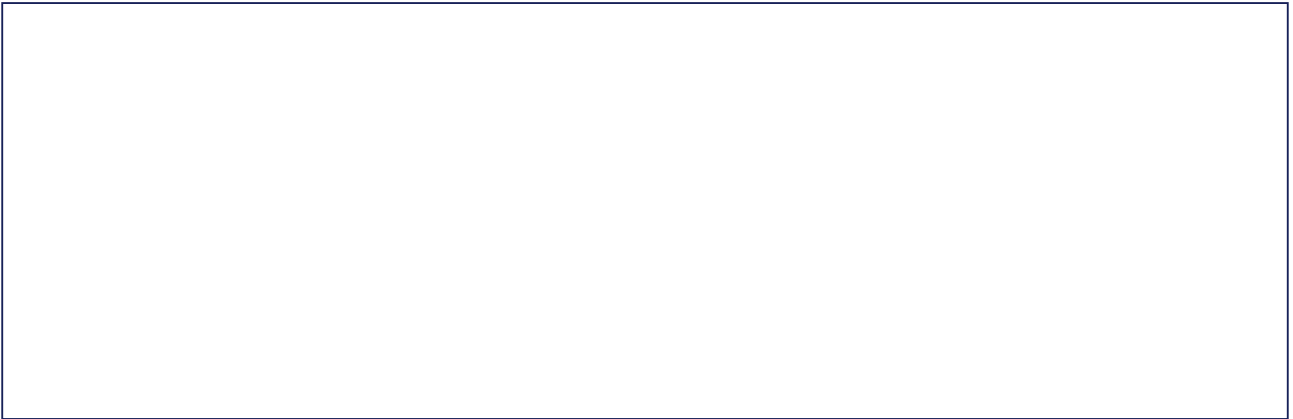
3. Zara is painting a picture of the smoke. Compare and contrast the appearance of the dark smoke against the bright sparks. Use the word 'whereas' in your description. (2 marks)

4. If you were standing next to the bonfire, what might you feel on your skin? Explain why the temperature changes as you move closer to the flames. (2 marks)

5. Construct a final two-line rhyming couplet about the finale of the fireworks display. Ensure you use an adverb to describe how the lights move. (2 marks)

6. What might happen if the fireworks were silent instead of thunderous? How would this change the way the audience experiences the celebration? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene of a Bonfire Night celebration as seen through Zara the zebra's eyes, focusing on the patterns of light in the sky and the textures of the bonfire embers.



Extension challenge: Compose a short 'shape poem' (calligram) where the words form the shape of a rocket or a bonfire. Challenge yourself to use a metaphor to describe the sparks, such as 'the sparks are golden bees dancing in the dark'.