

Expanding Our Descriptions with Max the Monkey

Learning objective: To identify and write expanded noun phrases to add detail and description to our writing.

Max the Monkey loves maths, but he also loves describing his jungle home! Use your adjectives to expand these noun phrases. Remember: an expanded noun phrase adds extra detail to a noun by using adjectives.

Max is exploring the jungle. He sees many things that need better descriptions. Help him make his sentences more exciting by expanding the noun phrases.

Word bank: gigantic · shimmering · playful · emerald · tasty · ancient · fluffy · mysterious

1. Max sees a monkey. Expand the noun phrase 'a monkey' by adding two adjectives from the word bank. (2 marks)

2. Max eats a banana. Write an expanded noun phrase for 'a banana' using one adjective for its size and one for its taste. (2 marks)

3. Underline the expanded noun phrase in this sentence: 'The shimmering, emerald leaves moved in the breeze.' (1 mark)

4. Look at the noun 'river'. Write an expanded noun phrase including two adjectives and a prepositional phrase (e.g., 'The long, winding river in the valley'). (3 marks)

5. Why do writers use expanded noun phrases? Explain your answer in one sentence. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the Monkey sitting in a tree. Add labels to your drawing using expanded noun phrases (e.g., 'The long, curled tail', 'The bright, yellow fruit').



Extension challenge: Write three sentences about your favourite animal. In each sentence, include an expanded noun phrase that uses at least two adjectives before the noun.