

Mastering the Grid: A Guide to Coordinates with Max the Monkey

Get ready to unlock the secrets of the grid—where every point tells a story!

- The x-axis is the horizontal line that runs left to right, while the y-axis is the vertical line that runs up and down.
- Always remember the golden rule: 'Along the corridor and up the stairs!' You must move along the x-axis first, then move up or down the y-axis.
- The origin is the starting point where the x and y axes meet. Its coordinates are always (0, 0).
- A coordinate pair is written in brackets like this: (x, y). The first number is your horizontal position, and the second number is your vertical position.
- The grid is divided into four quadrants. If you cross over the origin into negative numbers, you are still using the same simple rules!

Did you know? Did you know that the coordinate system we use today is often called the Cartesian plane? It was named after René Descartes, a mathematician who had the brilliant idea of using two intersecting lines to map out the world, inspired by watching a fly buzz around his ceiling!

Key vocabulary: Origin · X-axis · Y-axis · Quadrant · Horizontal · Vertical · Coordinate pair