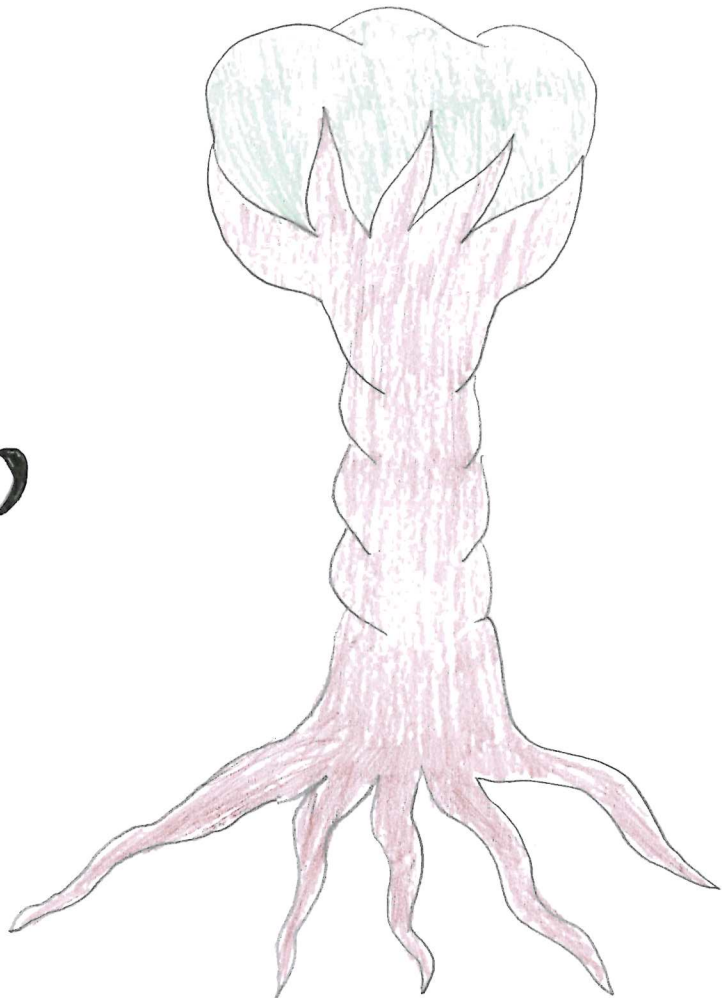




Banana

Trees

Map





Deep in the darkest, densest of jungles, Maths Monkey sat crying on a branch, a small tear rolling down his cheek. On a nearby tree, all the other monkeys sat whooping and laughing, their small hands and stomachs crammed full with bananas. Maths Monkey stood up, sighed and began swinging his way back home.



On the way home, Maths Monkey ran into Cameron the Crocodile.

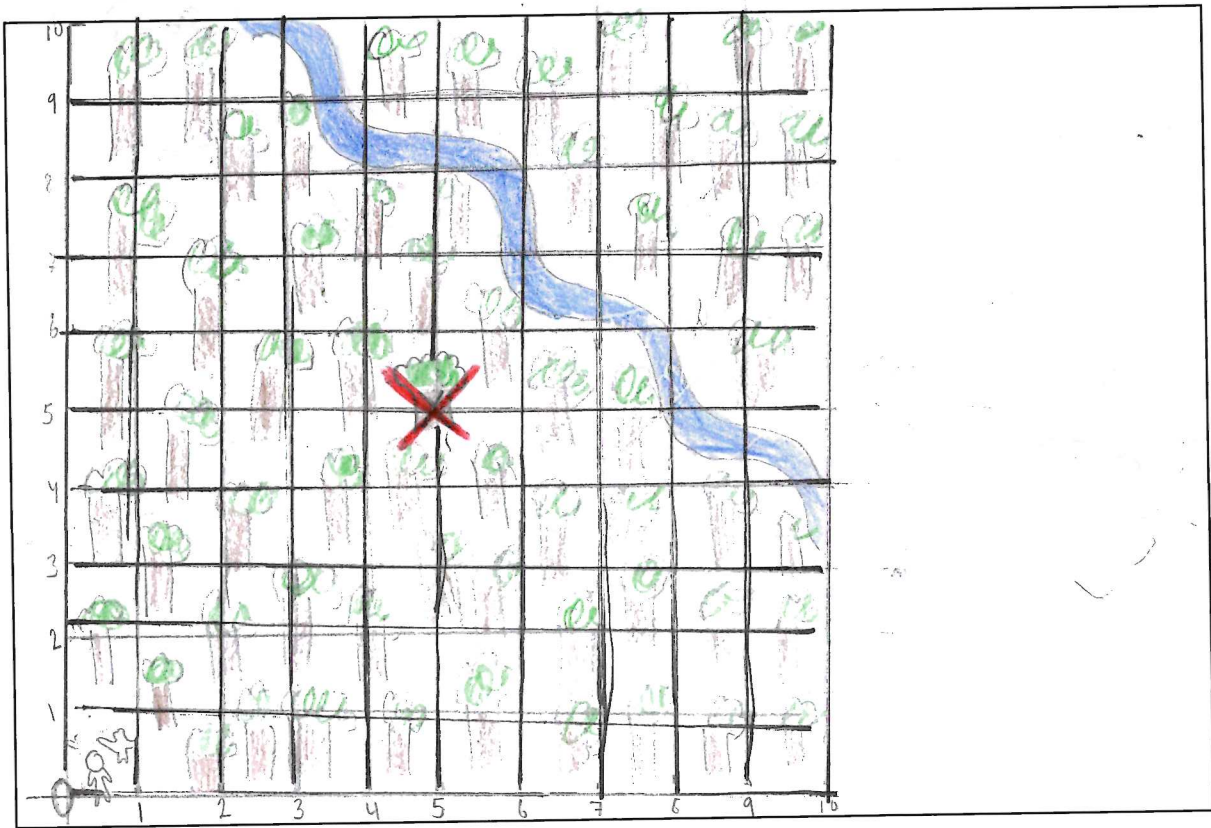
" Maths Monkey you look so upset," remarked Cameron, " What's the matter?"

"All the other monkeys have bananas," cried Math Monkey, " except me," he added.

Cameron frowned and said, " Well I don't think I can help you as I don't eat bananas but I did find this by the riverside," pulling out an old wet and frayed piece of paper. Maths Monkey took it and looked,

"What is this?" he asked, brow ruffled.

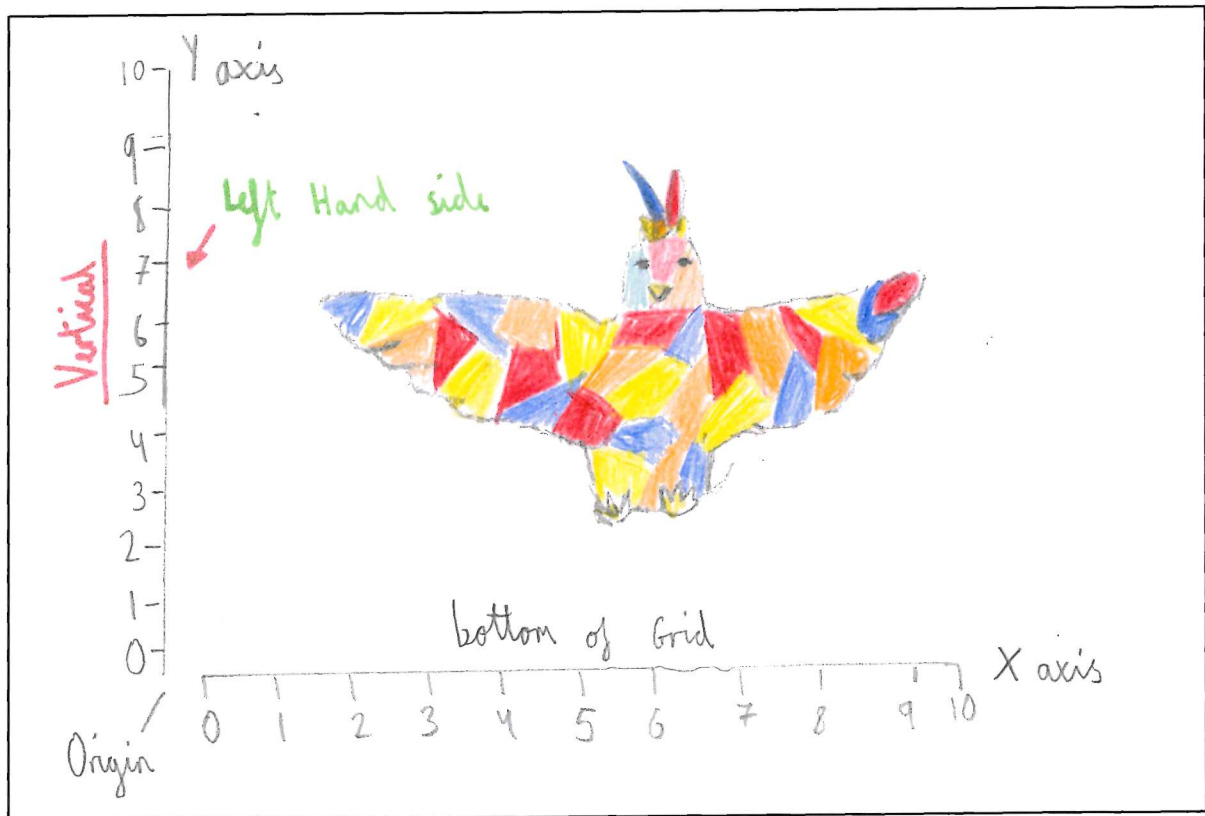
"It's a map," came a wise voice from high in the trees. The sound could be heard as Prescilla the Parrot majestically flew down from the trees in a blur of colour.



"And what is this?" Questioned Maths Monkey pointing at the cross drawn in the middle, an inquisitive look on his face.

"That is the treasure and in this case, the banana tree,"

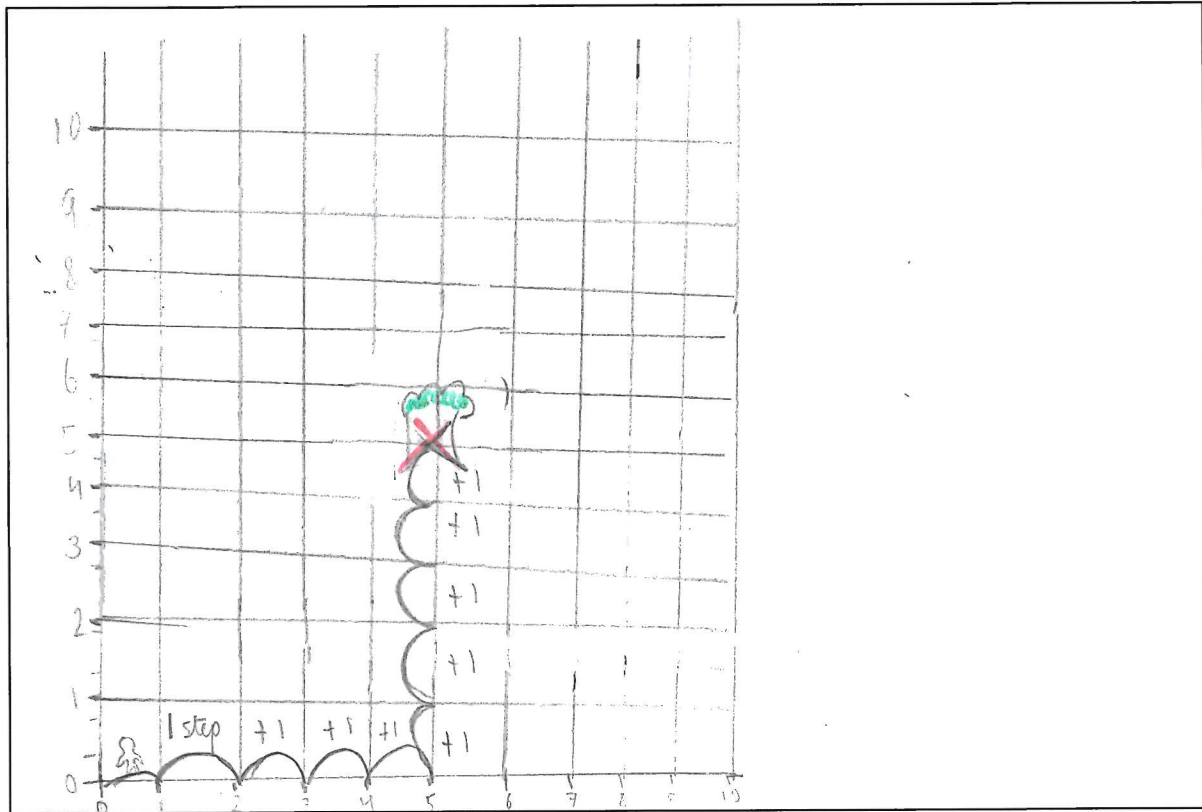
"So you mean that if I follow this map, I will get to a banana tree?" Maths Monkey's eyes' filled with glee.



"This is correct," replied Precilla, "but to get to the banana tree you will first have to learn how to read coordinates."

"What are coordinates?" Maths Monkey enquired.

"Coordinates are the plot on a grid, but to learn coordinates you will first have to learn the x and y axis. The x axis is the horizontal line on the grid and the numbers going across the bottom of the grid. The y axis are the vertical line and the numbers going up the left hand side of the grid.



You should always remember when reading and writing coordinates to put the x axis first. The saying to remember this is 'Down the corridor and up the stairs'.

For example, let's take a look at this map. Right now, we are at the coordinates (0,0) and the tree is at the coordinates (5,5). If we take a big step, we find ourselves at the coordinates (1,0). We must now take 4 more steps to get to (5,0). But we are still at number 5 on the x axis. To move higher, we must take 5 steps up vertically. "

Counting, as he went, Maths Monkey took 5 steps forward. "But I don't understand," he cried, "there is no banana tree!"

"You might want to take a look up," laughed Prescilla. As Maths Monkey looked he realised they were standing underneath a ginormous banana tree. The largest and ripest bananas hung from the branches. Maths Monkey jumped up with glee and gave a joyful shout, sprinting towards the tree as quickly as he could.



After Maths Monkey had eaten as many bananas as he could, he went down and thanked Prescilla offering her a mango. Maths Monkey decided that he liked the tree and the bananas so much that he built himself a tree house and invited Prescilla every afternoon for tea.

BLURB

Deep in the jungle, Maths Monkey is upset because he doesn't have any bananas. Cameron the crocodile finds a map and hands it to Maths Monkey. Prescilla the parrot teaches Maths Monkey that the map uses something called coordinates. Maths Monkey follows the map to find the treasure...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



My name is Connie and I go to St Christopher's school. I chose to write about monkeys because they are my favourite animals. I was inspired to write about coordinates because when I learnt about them I found them very fun and engaging.