11-14 YEAR OLDS
PUNCTUATION

ACTIVITY SHEET

Here are some notes on the punctuation skills we practised in today's lesson. You will also find an extension activity which you can complete in your own time.

PUNCTUATION REVIEW

Punctuation	Uses
: (colon)	Introduces a list, explanation or quotation.
; (semicolon)	Separates items in a complex list. Separates two sentences that are related but grammatically independent.
! (exclamation mark)	Conveys a command, exclamation or strong feeling.
? (question mark)	Marks the end of a question.
" " (speech marks)	Demonstrates direct speech. Also referred to as inverted commas.
... (ellipsis)	Marks a pause. Can be used to build suspense.

COLONS & SEMICOLONS

Colon (:)
* Introduces a list when the list is preceded by a complete independent clause.
  e.g. Here are some cities in the UK: Manchester, Dublin, Edinburgh and Swansea.

* Introduces a quote or explanation that emphasises or illustrates the point.
  e.g. He got what he deserved: he worked really hard for that test.

Semicolon (;)
* Separates items in a complex list.
  e.g. My favourite football players are Lionel Messi, Barcelona; Jadon Sancho, Borussia Dortmund; and Steph Houghton, Man City.
* Separates two related sentences that are grammatically independent.
  e.g. Some people prefer maths; other people prefer English.
* Can be used before words such as 'moreover', 'nevertheless', 'however', 'otherwise' and 'therefore'.

TAKEAWAY CHALLENGE

Become the Teacher
The ultimate test of your understanding! Use your knowledge of colons and semicolons to create your own 'fill in the gaps' activity. Create 5 sentences which use colons and semicolons, then write them again but leave a gap (_) where the punctuation should be. Teach somebody at home about colons and semicolons, and support them in completing your activity sheet.
For example, 'I need to pack three things _ a compass, a whistle and a map.'

Parents - We would love it if you could share your child's work with us on Twitter, Facebook and Instragram using #exploreathome