

## Core Skills Analysis

### Science - Animal Biology

- Misty learned about axolotls, a specific amphibious animal, and their unique method of communication.
- They discovered that axolotls use scent trails to communicate, introducing the concept of chemical signaling in animals.
- Misty's favourite fact shows understanding that animals can have unconventional communication methods beyond sounds and visuals.
- There was an engagement with biological processes and animal behavior through watching educational videos.

### Communication and Language

- Misty was introduced to the concept of non-verbal communication among animals, specifically scent-based signals.
- The humorous interpretation ('talk to each other by farts') indicates an ability to connect scientific facts with playful language and humor.
- Engagement with informational media helped develop listening and comprehension skills related to factual information.
- Misty demonstrated curiosity and attentiveness by identifying and recalling an unusual communication method.

### Tips

To deepen Misty's understanding of animal communication, consider exploring other methods animals use, such as visual signals, sounds, or movement. Hands-on activities, like creating scent trails with safe-smelling materials or observing pets or wildlife, can provide experiential learning. Incorporating storytelling where Misty imagines how axolotls communicate or drawing comics about their 'scent conversations' can merge creativity with science. Also, discussing the importance and purpose of communication in animals and humans encourages critical thinking about why and how beings convey messages.

### Book Recommendations

- [Axolotl Secret: The Amazing Life of the Mexican Salamander](#) by Sophie Haines: A child-friendly exploration into axolotls covering their unique biology and behaviors.
- [How Animals Talk](#) by Sarah Albee: This book introduces children to a variety of animal communication methods, from sounds to scents.
- [The Communication Book for Kids](#) by Matt Doeden: An engaging guide that helps kids understand how living creatures use different forms of communication.

### Learning Standards

- Science KS1: Animals, including humans – Identifying how animals use different senses and methods to communicate (National Curriculum 1a & 1c)
- Science KS1: Working scientifically – Making observations and asking questions about animal behavior (National Curriculum 2a & 2c)
- English KS1: Listening, attention and understanding – Following information videos and recalling facts (National Curriculum ELG)

### Try This Next

- Create a Scent Trail Maze: Use safe scents (like herbs or spices) to mark paths for a friend or family member to follow, mimicking axolotl communication.

- Draw a Comic Strip: Illustrate a funny story showing axolotls 'chatting' using scent trails, incorporating creative dialogue.

### **Growth Beyond Academics**

Misty's amusement and fascination reflect natural curiosity and a positive emotional response to learning. The humor found in the 'fart' connection reveals comfort in discussing biological functions openly, which supports healthy attitudes toward science. This moment likely enhanced engagement and confidence in asking questions and exploring topics.