

Max's Magnificent Maths Challenge

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to 4 digits using formal written methods of columnar addition.

Help Max the monkey solve these addition puzzles. Read each question carefully, show your working out, and remember to carry your tens, hundreds, and thousands where necessary!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.A, 3.False, 4.True, 5.1,273, 6.B, 7.8,999, 8.True, 9.5,432, 10.B. Working out: Ensure children align digits correctly by place value before adding.

Word bank: column · sum · total · regrouping · value · digit · addition · calculate

1. Max has 1,240 bananas and finds 533 more. What is the total? A) 1,773* B) 1,673 C) 1,770 D) 1,873 (1 mark)

2. Which calculation gives the same result as $2,500 + 1,200$? A) $3,700$ * B) $3,200$ C) $2,700$ D) $3,800$ (1 mark)

3. True or False: When adding $4,567 + 234$, you do not need to regroup any digits. (1 mark)

4. True or False: The sum of 1,000 and 9,000 is 10,000. (1 mark)

5. Calculate the sum of 852 and 421. (1 mark)

6. If you add £1,450 and £2,320, what is the total? A) £3,670 B) £3,770* C) £3,870 D) £3,700 (1 mark)

7. What is $4,444 + 4,555$? (1 mark)

8. True or False: $3,000 + 2,500 + 400 = 5,900$. (1 mark)

9. Max has £3,211 and earns another £2,221. How much does he have now? (1 mark)

10. Which is the missing number? $1,500 + ? = 2,500$. A) 500 B) 1,000* C) 1,500 D) 2,000 (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey sitting under a tree holding a basket of fruit, with a chalkboard next to him showing a column addition sum involving 4-digit numbers.



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why it is essential to align digits by their place value when using the column method. 2. Compare the sum of $1,234 + 5,678$ with $5,678 + 1,234$. What do you notice about the order of the numbers? 3. Justify why adding 999 is often easier by adding 1,000 and subtracting 1. 4. What might happen if you forget to carry a digit over to the next column? 5. Create your own 4-digit addition word problem for a friend to solve. 6. If you added two 4-digit numbers and the answer was 19,998, what could those two numbers be? Provide three different possibilities.