

Max's Market Rounding Challenge

Learning objective: To round decimals with one decimal place to the nearest whole number and round amounts of money to the nearest pound.

Max the monkey is helping at the local market. He needs to round prices and weights to the nearest whole number or pound to help the stallholders work quickly. For each item, decide whether to round down or round up. Remember the rule: if the digit after the decimal point is 5 or more, round up to the next whole number; if it is 4 or less, round down.

Word bank: round up · round down · decimal point · nearest whole number · nearest pound · estimate

1. A bag of apples costs £4.20. Max says he can round this to £4.00. Is Max correct? Justify your answer using your knowledge of rounding rules. (2 marks)

2. A punnet of strawberries weighs 2.7kg. If we round this to the nearest whole kilogram, what would the weight be? Explain why you chose that number. (2 marks)

3. A jar of honey is priced at £5.50. Does this round up to £6.00 or down to £5.00? Explain the rule for rounding numbers that end exactly in .5. (2 marks)

4. Compare these two prices: £7.40 and £7.60. Which one is closer to £7.00 and which is closer to £8.00? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

5. If a melon costs £3.10 and a bunch of grapes costs £2.90, what is the total estimated cost if you round both to the nearest pound first? (2 marks)

6. What might happen if a shopkeeper always rounded their prices down instead of to the nearest pound? How would this affect their total earnings at the end of the day? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a number line from 3 to 4. Mark the position of 3.2, 3.5, and 3.8. Use arrows to show which whole number each of these decimals is closest to.

Extension challenge: Imagine you have a budget of £20. Create a shopping list of 5 items with prices ending in decimals (e.g., £4.30). Calculate the exact total, then calculate the estimated total by rounding each item to the nearest pound. Compare the two totals and explain why they are different.