

Max's Mental Maths Challenge: The Marketplace Planner

Learning objective: To improve mental maths fluency, including addition, subtraction, and multiplication strategies with money in Australian dollars and cents.

Max the monkey is helping the local market stall owners organise their prices. Use your mental maths skills to calculate totals, change, and discounts. For each section, show your working out mentally or use a jotted note, then write your final answer clearly.

Word bank: total · difference · product · change · calculate · mental strategy · pounds · pence · estimate · remainder

1. The Fruit Calculation: If an apple costs 25p and a banana costs 30p, calculate the total cost for 4 apples and 2 bananas. What is your mental strategy? (2 marks)

2. The Change Challenge: A customer buys a bag of oranges for £3.50. They pay with a £5.00 note. How much change should they receive? Explain how you worked this out. (2 marks)

3. The Multiplier Puzzle: If a punnet of strawberries costs £1.20, how much would 3 punnets cost? Show how you can use multiplication to find the answer. (2 marks)

4. The Price Difference: A loaf of bread costs £1.85 and a pot of honey costs £2.10. What is the difference in price between the two items? (2 marks)

5. The Bulk Buy: Max finds a deal where 5 packs of biscuits cost £5.00. How much does one single pack cost? How did you solve this? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Max challenges you to create your own 'Marketplace Problem' using three different items with prices in Australian dollars and cents. Write the problem for a partner to solve using a mental strategy of their choice.