

Max's Mathematical Mystery-Solver Guide

Decode the digits and conquer the calculation!

- **Identify the operation:** Look for keywords like 'altogether', 'total', or 'sum' to signal that you need to perform addition.
- **The Difference Strategy:** When a problem asks 'how many more' or 'what is the difference', you must find the gap between two numbers using subtraction.
- **Scaling Up:** If you see 'each', 'every', or 'per', you are likely dealing with multiplication or division to find the total or share items equally.
- **The Check-Back Method:** Always read your final answer and ask yourself, 'Does this make sense in the context of the story?' Use the inverse operation to verify your result.
- **Currency Careful:** When working with £, always ensure your decimal points are lined up vertically in your column addition or subtraction to avoid errors.

Did you know? Did you know? The word 'calculate' comes from the Latin word 'calculus', which means 'pebble'. Ancient mathematicians used small stones to help them count and solve tricky problems before paper and pens were invented!

Key vocabulary: Operation · Difference · Sum · Product · Quotient · Estimate · Inverse · Multi-step