Max’s Market Challenge: Addition in Action

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to four digits using formal written methods (column addition) and solve multi-step problems involving money.

Max the monkey is helping the local market stallholders manage their stock and takings. Use your column addition skills to help Max calculate the totals. Remember to align your digits by their place value (thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones). If your column total is 10 or more, don’t forget to regroup and carry over the digit into the next column!

Word bank: regroup · place value · total · sum · column addition · carry · pence · pounds

1. The apple seller sold £1,245 worth of fruit on Saturday and £2,386 on Sunday. What is the total amount earned over the weekend? Show your working out. (2 marks)

2. A box of pears costs £14.75 and a box of oranges costs £22.50. Max buys one of each. Calculate the total cost. Explain why it is important to keep the decimal point in the same position in your column addition. (3 marks)

3. The market stall has 1,562 red ribbons and 2,479 blue ribbons. How many ribbons are there in total? Justify your answer by using an inverse operation to check your result. (3 marks)

4. Max finds a crate containing 3,892 green grapes and another containing 2,148 purple grapes. Calculate the sum. If the stall sells 1,000 grapes, how would the total change? Compare the original sum to the new sum. (3 marks)

5. The baker sells 2,450 scones in the morning and 1,785 in the afternoon. What might happen to the total if they baked 500 more scones in the afternoon? Calculate the new total. (2 marks)

6. Create your own addition word problem involving a market stall that requires a four-digit number plus a three-digit number. Swap with a partner to solve. (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a busy market stall scene including a sign that shows the total price of two different items added together, ensuring the addition calculation is clearly visible on the sign.

Extension challenge: Challenge: Imagine the market stall owner wants to reach a target of £10,000 in sales. They have already earned £4,560 on Monday and £3,275 on Tuesday. Create a table showing the remaining amount needed to reach the target and explain the strategy you used to calculate this.