

Max's Market Stall Challenge

Learning objective: To practise formal written methods for addition, including column addition with more than four digits and decimals involving money.

Max the monkey is helping at the local community market. Help him calculate the total cost of his customers' shopping baskets by using column addition. Remember to line up your place value columns carefully—units, tens, hundreds, thousands, and the decimal point for the pence!

Word bank: total · sum · column · exchange · place value · addition · altogether · decimal point

1. The Fruit Stand: A customer buys apples for £14.50 and pears for £22.75. Show your working to find the total cost. (2 marks)

2. The Book Corner: Pip buys a storybook for £12.45, a poetry collection for £8.99, and a dictionary for £15.20. Calculate the sum of these three items. (3 marks)

3. Market Inventory: Max counted 4,562 red balloons and 3,789 blue balloons in the store cupboard. How many balloons are there in total? (2 marks)

4. The Bakery: A tray of muffins costs £18.65. If the baker adds a loaf of bread for £4.35 and a cake for £12.90, what is the total? (3 marks)

5. Explain your method: Why is it important to align the decimal points when adding money in a column addition sum? (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Max has a budget of £50.00. Create your own list of three market items with different prices and calculate if they stay within his budget. Use column addition to show your result.