Max’s Magnificent Market Math

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to four digits using formal written methods of columnar addition, including carrying across columns.

Help Max the monkey calculate the total cost of items at the BookFlik Forest Market. Use the formal column addition method to show your working clearly. Remember to align your digits by their place value: thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones.

Max is organising the annual BookFlik Forest Market. He has been busy tallying up the prices of the produce. A crate of golden apples costs £1,245, while a bundle of enchanted sunflower seeds costs £867. Meanwhile, Pip the caterpillar has bought a collection of rare vintage books for £2,590 and a set of colorful bookmarks for £435. Max needs to ensure his accounts are perfectly accurate so the forest animals can continue their learning adventures.

Word bank: columnar addition · place value · regrouping · total · sum · exchange

1. Max wants to find the total cost of the golden apples (£1,245) and the sunflower seeds (£867). Calculate the sum and show your column addition working. (2 marks)

2. Pip buys the books (£2,590) and the bookmarks (£435). What is the total amount Pip spent at the market? Explain how you handled the regrouping in the hundreds column. (3 marks)

3. If Max decides to buy another crate of apples for £1,245 and a second bundle of seeds for £867, what would be the total cost of these four items combined? (3 marks)

4. Justify why it is essential to start adding from the ones column when using the formal written method. What might happen if you started from the thousands column instead? (3 marks)

5. Compare the total of £2,590 + £435 with the total of £1,245 + £867. Which sum is larger, and by how much? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a busy market stall in the forest where Max the monkey is using an abacus to count coins. Include labels for the items showing their prices in dollars and cents.

Extension challenge: Max has a budget of £5,000 for the market. Create a 'shopping list' of three different items with four-digit prices that, when added together, get as close as possible to £5,000 without going over. Explain your strategy for selecting these amounts.