

Max's Mathematical Market Mystery

Learning objective: To solve multi-step word problems involving money and measure in the context of a marketplace.

Help Max the monkey organize the market stalls! Use your math skills to calculate costs, totals, and change. Read each problem carefully, identify the operation required (addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division), and show your working out clearly before writing your final answer in dollars and cents.

Word bank: calculate · total · difference · remainder · multiplication · equivalent · estimation · operation

1. Max is buying fruit for the community picnic. He buys 4 bags of apples at £2.15 each. Explain your method for calculating the total cost and justify why you chose that operation. (3 marks)

2. Ellie the elephant has a budget of £20.00. She spends £8.45 on a large basket of woven hay and £5.20 on a patterned scarf. Calculate how much change she should receive. Show your column subtraction. (3 marks)

3. Compare and contrast: If Kit the fox buys 3 items costing £1.50 each, and Pip the caterpillar buys 2 items costing £2.25 each, who spends more? Prove your answer with a calculation. (3 marks)

4. Zara the zebra sells 6 hand-painted canvases for £4.50 each. If she wants to reach a target of £30.00, how much more money does she need to earn? Explain your reasoning. (3 marks)

5. What might happen if the price of all items in the market increased by 50p? Choose one of your previous answers and recalculate the new total based on this change. (3 marks)

6. Create your own 'Challenge Question' for a partner to solve. Ensure your problem requires at least two steps (e.g., adding two items and then subtracting from a total). (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a 'Price List' for a fictional market stall. You must include at least four items with different prices. Write a complex, three-step word problem based on your price list that would challenge a classmate to think critically about budgeting and remainders.