

# Max's Mental Maths Challenge Log

*Learning objective: To practise and explain mental calculation strategies including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division using efficient methods.*

Help Max the monkey solve his daily puzzles! Choose a mental maths challenge, write down the calculation, and explain the strategy you used (such as partitioning, rounding, or using known facts) to reach your answer.

*Word bank: partitioning · rounding · compensation · inverse operation · factors · multiples · estimate · strategy*

**1. The Addition Challenge: Write a calculation involving a 4-digit number and a 3-digit number. Explain the strategy you used to add them mentally. (2 marks)**

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**2. The Subtraction Challenge: Start with £50.00. Max buys items costing £12.50 and £8.75. How much change does he have? Show your mental steps. (3 marks)**

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**3. The Multiplication Challenge: Choose a 2-digit number to multiply by 6. Show how you partition the number to make the mental multiplication easier. (2 marks)**

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**4. The Division Challenge: Max has 144 acorns to share equally between 12 squirrels. What is the calculation and how did you arrive at your answer? (2 marks)**

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**5. The Estimation Check: Look at your answers above. How can you use rounding to check if your answers are sensible and accurate? (2 marks)**

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*Extension challenge: Challenge a friend to solve your calculations without using a written method. Can they find a faster way to reach the answer than you did?*