

Max's Mental Maths Mastery: The Toolkit for Year 5

Think Fast, Calculate Smart: Unlock Your Mathematical Potential!

- To add or subtract mentally, try partitioning numbers into their thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones to make them easier to manage.
- Remember that addition is commutative: $345 + 120$ is the same as $120 + 345$. Use this to your advantage when rearranging complex sums.
- When multiplying by 10, 100, or 1000, shift each digit to the left in the place value column, adding placeholders where necessary.
- Use inverse operations to verify your results; subtraction is the inverse of addition, just as division is the inverse of multiplication.
- For rapid multiplication, look for factor pairs. To multiply by 12, multiply by 10 and 2 separately, then find the sum of the two products.
- Always estimate before calculating to ensure your final answer is sensible. If your mental calculation is far from your estimate, check your regrouping.

Did you know? Did you know? Max the monkey often uses a technique called 'compensation' when he shops for bananas. If he needs to add 19, he simply adds 20 and subtracts 1. This clever mental shortcut saves time and keeps his brain sharp for his next big adventure!

Key vocabulary: partitioning · commutative · inverse · place value · compensation · multiple · factor · regrouping