

Max's Magnificent Market Maths: Mastering Rounding

Learning objective: To round decimals with two decimal places to the nearest whole number and to the nearest tenth.

Max the monkey is helping at the local market. Use your rounding skills to help him price his fruit and manage the stall's accounts. Show your working out clearly.

Max has various items for sale. A punnet of strawberries costs £2.46. A bag of apples costs £3.82. A bunch of bananas costs £1.15. A jar of honey costs £5.50.

Word bank: round · decimal · nearest · tenth · whole number · estimate · value · digit

1. Max wants to estimate the cost of the strawberries (£2.46) to the nearest whole pound. Round £2.46 to the nearest whole number and explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

2. A customer buys a bag of apples for £3.82. Round this price to the nearest tenth of a pound (£3.80 or £3.90). Justify why you chose that value. (2 marks)

3. The honey costs £5.50. When rounding to the nearest whole pound, why is it standard practice to round up to £6.00 rather than down to £5.00? (2 marks)

4. Max has an item priced at £4.44. Compare and contrast rounding this value to the nearest whole number versus rounding it to the nearest tenth. (3 marks)

5. If Max rounds all prices to the nearest pound before a customer pays, what might happen to the total profit at the end of the day if he has 100 items priced at £1.49? (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a busy market stall scene featuring Max the monkey holding a sign that displays a decimal price, with labels showing the price rounded to the nearest whole number.



Extension challenge: Design a challenge for a friend: Create a list of five items with prices ending in two decimal places. Create an 'answer key' that shows the prices rounded to the nearest whole pound AND the nearest tenth. Challenge your friend to identify which item changes the most when rounded to the nearest whole number.