

3.1

Exploring Adding and Subtracting Decimals

GOAL

Add and subtract decimals using mental math.

1. Rewrite these number sentences using near numbers, to make them easier to estimate. Then calculate. The first one is done for you.

a) $3.19 + 1.20 =$ $3.2 + 1.2 = 4.4$

b) $2.75 + 1.01 =$ $2.75 + 1.00 = 3.75$

c) $4.48 + 2.50 =$ $4.50 + 2.50 = 7$

d) $9.99 + 3.02 =$ $10 + 3 = 13$

2. Estimate each sum.

a) $4.50 + 2.25 =$ 6.5

b) $8.95 + 1.05 =$ 10

c) $0.95 + 4.45 =$ 5.5

d) $5.00 + 1.33 =$ 6.3

e) $4.65 + 2.49 =$ 7

f) $3.75 + 3.35 =$ 7

3. Estimate each difference.

a) $6.75 - 4.25 =$ 2.5

b) $8.20 - 4.15 =$ 4

c) $9.00 - 8.35 =$ 0.6

d) $4.88 - 1.99 =$ 3

e) $7.45 - 6.95 =$ 0.5

f) $8.00 - 1.99 =$ 6.0

4. Circle the closest estimate for each calculation.

a) $5.66 - 1.98$ 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0

b) $2.76 + 3.66$ 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0

c) $13.96 - 10.1$ 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0

d) $2.3 + 2.99$ 3.0 4.0 5.0 6.0 7.0

At-Home Help

When estimating, ask yourself these questions:

- Will it help to use the nearest tenth?

For example, $0.23 \rightarrow 0.2$

- Will it help to use the nearest whole number?

For example, $1.03 \rightarrow 1$

Choose the nearest number that is most helpful to you. There is no single right answer for an estimate.