

# Estimating Sums and Differences

During one week, Mr. Graham drove a truck to five different towns to make deliveries. Estimate how far he drove in all.

**Mr. Graham's Mileage Log**

Cities	Mileage
Mansley to Mt. Hazel	243
Mt. Hazel to Perkins	303
Perkins to Alberton	279
Alberton to Fort Maynard	277
Fort Maynard to Mansley	352

To estimate the sum, you can round each number to the nearest hundred miles.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 243 \Rightarrow 200 \\
 303 \Rightarrow 300 \\
 279 \Rightarrow 300 \\
 277 \Rightarrow 300 \\
 +352 \Rightarrow +400 \\
 \hline
 1,500 \text{ mi}
 \end{array}$$

Mr. Graham drove about 1,500 mi.

You can estimate differences in a similar way.

Estimate  $7.25 - 4.98$ .

You can round each number to the nearest whole number.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 7.25 \Rightarrow 7 \\
 -4.98 \Rightarrow -5 \\
 \hline
 2
 \end{array}$$

The difference is about 2.

Estimate each sum or difference.

1.  $19.7 - 6.9$

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2.  $59 + 43 + 95$

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3.  $582 + 169 + 23$

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4.  $87.99 - 52.46$

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5. **Estimation** Brigid worked 16.75 h. Kevin worked 12.50 h. About how many more hours did Brigid work than Kevin?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Estimating Sums and Differences

Estimate each sum or difference.

1.  $5,602 - 2,344$  \_\_\_\_\_ 2.  $7.4 + 3.1 + 9.8$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $2,314 + 671$  \_\_\_\_\_ 4.  $54.23 - 2.39$  \_\_\_\_\_

5. Wesley estimated  $5.82 - 4.21$  to be about 2. Is this an overestimate or an underestimate? Explain.

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6. Estimate the total precipitation in inches and the total number of days with precipitation for Asheville and Wichita.

**Average Yearly Precipitation of U.S. Cities**

City	Inches	Days
Asheville, North Carolina	47.71	124
Wichita, Kansas	28.61	85

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7. Which numbers should you add to estimate the answer to this problem:  
 $87,087 + 98,000$ ?

**A**  $88,000 + 98,000$

**C**  $87,000 + 98,000$

**B**  $85,000 + 95,000$

**D**  $80,000 + 90,000$

8. **Estimation** Estimate the total weight of two boxes that weigh 9.4 lb and 62.6 lb using rounding and compatible numbers. Which estimate is closer to the actual total weight? Why?

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