

Max the Monkey's Woodland Addition Challenge

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to four digits using the formal written method of columnar addition, including carrying tens, hundreds, and thousands.

Help Max the Monkey solve his forest puzzles by showing your working out clearly. Remember to line up your columns carefully using the place value grid.

Max the Monkey is busy organising the Great Forest Festival. He has collected 2,456 shiny acorns and 1,879 smooth pebbles to decorate the clearing. He needs to find the total number of items he has collected to share with his friends. Later, Pip the caterpillar brings him 3,245 colourful leaves to add to the display. Max is very excited to calculate the grand total!

Word bank: column · exchange · total · place value · sum · carry

1. Using the numbers from the passage, calculate the total of the acorns and the pebbles ($2,456 + 1,879$). Show your column addition. (2 marks)

2. Calculate the sum of all the items Max has now: 4,335 (the total of acorns and pebbles) + 3,245 (the leaves). (2 marks)

3. Solve: $5,672 + 2,499$. Remember to exchange where necessary. (2 marks)

4. Zara the Zebra has 1,250 art supplies and finds another 1,785. How many does she have in total? Write a number sentence to show your calculation. (2 marks)

5. True or False: When adding $3,450 + 2,670$, the total will be greater than 6,000. Explain your answer using your knowledge of place value. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a place value chart showing how you would set out the calculation $1,482 + 2,359$ before you add the columns together.



Extension challenge: Max has a mystery number. When he adds 4,500 to it, the total is 8,250. Can you use inverse operations (subtraction) to find out what Max's mystery number is?