

Max's Addition Adventure

Learning objective: To add numbers with up to four digits using the formal written method of column addition.

Read the story below and help Max solve his mathematical puzzles. Use column addition to find the totals, remembering to line up your thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones correctly.

Max the monkey is organizing his collection of forest treasures. He has 2,456 shiny pebbles and 1,328 smooth river stones. Later, he finds a hidden stash of 1,245 golden acorns and 2,567 silver acorns. Max loves to calculate the total number of items he has to make sure his collection is growing perfectly. He carefully writes his numbers in columns to ensure his place value is correct, ready to add them up.

Word bank: column addition · place value · exchange · total · sum · digit · addend · carry · thousands · hundreds · tens · ones

1. Using column addition, calculate the total number of pebbles and river stones Max has (2,456 + 1,328). (2 marks)

2. What is the total sum of all the acorns Max found (1,245 + 2,567)? (2 marks)

3. If Max finds 1,000 more pebbles, what would his new total be? Show your working. (2 marks)

4. Max bought a wooden storage box for £1,450 and a display shelf for £2,345. How much did he spend in total? (2 marks)

5. Explain why it is important to 'exchange' when the total of a column is more than 9. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey standing next to his neat piles of pebbles and acorns, with a small chalkboard nearby showing a column addition sum.



Extension challenge: Max has 4,500 items in total. If he gives 1,250 items to his friend Pip, how many items does Max have left? Write your own word problem for this calculation.