

Max's Market Maths Challenge

Learning objective: To subtract amounts of money and numbers with up to four digits using formal written methods.

Read the story below and help Max the monkey solve his market puzzles. Show your working out clearly.

Max the monkey is visiting the local farmer's market to help his friends buy supplies. He has a notepad and a calculator, but he prefers to use his brain! He starts the day with £50.00 in his pocket. First, he buys a basket of fresh apples for £8.45 for Pip the caterpillar. Next, he finds some sunflower seeds for Bea the honeybee, which cost £12.75. Finally, he spots a beautiful hand-painted map for Finn the dolphin that costs £24.20. Max needs to make sure he keeps track of his money carefully.

Word bank: subtract · difference · exchange · total · column method · remainder

1. After buying the apples for £8.45, how much money does Max have left from his starting £50.00? (2 marks)

2. Max then spends £12.75 on sunflower seeds. What is the new total amount of money remaining in his pocket? (2 marks)

3. Calculate the difference in price between the map (£24.20) and the apples (£8.45). (2 marks)

4. If Max had started with £75.00 instead of £50.00, how much change would he have after buying all three items (apples, seeds, and map)? (3 marks)

5. A farmer has 2,450 carrots. He sells 1,285 of them at the market. How many carrots does the farmer have left? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey carrying his shopping basket filled with the apples, sunflower seeds, and the map.



Extension challenge: Max finds a rare coin worth £100. If he adds this to his remaining money after all three purchases, how much does he have in total? Write a word problem for a friend to solve using this new total.