

Estimating

You can *estimate* the result of a calculation. Round the numbers, and then calculate (add or subtract) using the rounded numbers. Your result is not exact. That is why it's called an *estimate*.

Use the symbol “ \approx ” (is approximately) instead of equality “ $=$ ” when you change from exact numbers to rounded numbers.

$$567 + 89 - 413$$

$$\approx 600 + 100 - 400 = 300.$$

$$\$4.12 + \$27.90 + \$5.99$$

$$\approx \$4 + \$28 + \$6 = \$38.$$

1. First estimate by rounding the numbers to the nearest hundred. Then find the exact answer.

a. $967 + 231 + 4,792$

Estimation:

b. $320 + 405 + 587$

Estimation:

c. $1,029 - 372 - 105$

Estimation:

d. $3,492 - 1,540 - 211$

Estimation:

2. The table lists the costs of running the student recess time snack bar.

Estimate the total cost over these five weeks by rounding the numbers to the nearest ten.

| Week 37 | Week 38 | Week 39 | Week 40 | Week 41 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| \$147 | \$164 | \$182 | \$129 | \$131 |