Rounding and Estimation

GCSE Maths · Foundation tier · Grades 2–4 · About 20 minutes · 8 questions

Name _____ Date _____ Score / 8

WHAT YOU WILL PRACTISE

- Round to a given number of decimal places
- Round to a given number of significant figures
- Estimate the answer to a calculation by rounding to 1 significant figure

WORKED EXAMPLE

Round 0.03584 to 2 significant figures.

1. Find the first significant figure: the first non-zero digit, which is 3.
2. The second significant figure is 5, so the answer will be 0.035 or 0.036.
3. Look at the next digit, 8. It is 5 or more, so round up.

Answer: 0.036

Questions

Show your working in the space under each question.

1. Round 4,836 to the nearest hundred

2. Round 7.386 to 2 decimal places

3. Round 0.04729 to 2 significant figures

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4. Round 68,450 to 1 significant figure

5. Round 12.96 to 1 decimal place

6. Estimate 48.7 × 21.2 by rounding each number to 1 significant figure

7. Estimate (6.8 × 31.4) ÷ 0.48 by rounding each number to 1 significant figure

8. A length is 8.4 cm, correct to 1 decimal place. Write down the smallest possible length.

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Answers: Rounding and Estimation

Mark your own work, then go back to any question you got wrong before reading the tutor tip.

Q	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Round 4,836 to the nearest hundred	**4,800**
2	Round 7.386 to 2 decimal places	**7.39**
3	Round 0.04729 to 2 significant figures	**0.047**
4	Round 68,450 to 1 significant figure	**70,000**
5	Round 12.96 to 1 decimal place	**13.0**
6	Estimate 48.7 × 21.2 by rounding each number to 1 significant figure	**50 × 20 = 1000**
7	Estimate (6.8 × 31.4) ÷ 0.48 by rounding each number to 1 significant figure	**(7 × 30) ÷ 0.5 = 420**
8	A length is 8.4 cm, correct to 1 decimal place. Write down the smallest possible length.	**8.35 cm**

TUTOR TIP

Zeros at the start of a decimal are not significant. Start counting at the first non-zero digit.

Stuck on a question? Work through it live with a tutor.

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