

Estimating Sums and Differences

Estimate: $7.382 + 4.97$

1. Round each number to the nearest whole number.

$$7.382 + 4.97$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ 7 + 5 \end{array}$$

2. Add to estimate:

$$7 + 5 = 12$$

$$7.382 + 4.97 \approx 12$$

\approx is used to show that this is an estimate.

Estimate: $12.57 - 6.806$

1. Round each number to the nearest whole number.

$$12.57 - 6.806$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ 13 - 7 \end{array}$$

2. Subtract to estimate.

$$13 - 7 = 6$$

$$12.57 - 6.806 \approx 6$$

You can also round the numbers to any decimal place. Estimate the sum. Round to the nearest tenth.

$$3.947 + 11.286$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ 3.9 + 11.3 = 15.2, \text{ so } 3.947 + 11.286 \approx 15.2 \end{array}$$

Round each number to the nearest whole number to estimate the answer.

1. $4.38 + 9.179$ _____ 2. $62.873 - 12.7$ _____ 3. $52.83 + 97.288$ _____

4. $131.049 - 82.604$ _____ 5. $79.14 + 32.546$ _____ 6. $48.468 + 63.029$ _____

7. $112.658 - 81.903$ _____ 8. $586.735 - 204.63$ _____ 9. $107.139 + 90.621$ _____

Round each number to the nearest tenth to estimate the answer.

10. $17.058 - 8.623$ _____ 11. $38.8314 + 15.62$ _____ 12. $26.429 - 6.703$ _____

13. $238.562 - 104.387$ _____ 14. $400.628 + 291.037$ _____ 15. $76.451 - 68.399$ _____

16. **Geometry** The area of the Davis's living room is 18.087 square yards, and their bedroom has an area of 15.78 square yards. Round to the nearest tenth and estimate the amount of carpet they need to buy.
- _____

17. **Explain It** Angela has a \$5-bill, two \$10-bills, and a \$20-bill. She wants to buy a DVD for \$17.89, a pin for \$5.12, and shoes for \$12.99. Estimate the sum to the nearest dollar. Tell which bills she should hand to the cashier.
- _____
- _____