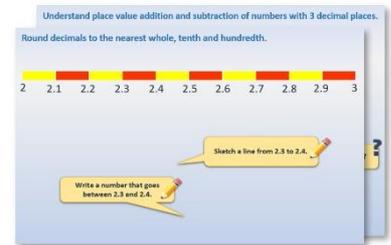


Week 8, Day 3

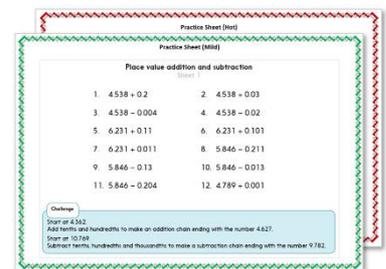
Finding the mean (1)

Each day covers one maths topic. It should take you about 1 hour or just a little more.

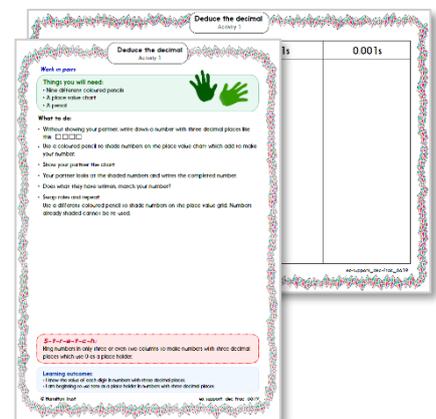
1. Start by reading through the **Learning Reminders**. They come from our *PowerPoint* slides.



2. Tackle the questions on the **Practice Sheet**. There might be a choice of either **Mild** (easier) or **Hot** (harder)! Check the answers.



3. Finding it tricky? That's OK... have a go with a grown-up at **A Bit Stuck?**



4. Think you've cracked it? Whizzed through the Practice Sheets? Have a go at the **Investigation...**

Learning Reminders

Calculate and interpret the mean as an average.

Do you know what the word average means or in what context the word is used?

We say that someone is of average height if they are neither particularly tall nor particularly short.

There are different ways of finding an average, one way is called the mean.

Eva
Matthew
Harry
Sandip
James
Lucy

We are going to find the average length of name. To find the mean we add up the number of letters in all the names, then divide by how many names there are (6).

1. Find the total number of letters.

There are 30 letters in all.

2. Now we divide the total 30 by 6.

$$30 \div 6 = 5$$

So the **mean** is 5.

Learning Reminders

Calculate and interpret the mean as an average.

The mean is not always a whole number.

Eva
Matthew
Harry
Sandip
James
Lucy
Jasminder

Add the name Jasminder to the list and ask find the new total number of letters. 

What should we divide the total number of letters by this time to find the mean number of letters in the names? 39 

Find the answer to the nearest tenth using a calculator. 

$$39 \div 7 = ?$$

This new average of 5.6 is more than 5, because the longer name has raised the average.

There are some situations when it is useful to find an average, e.g. average score on a computer game, average test scores, average rainfall or average number of hours of sunshine for each month. Can you think of any others? 

Practice Sheets for All Finding the mean

Children roll a 1-6 dice ten times.

Find the mean score (the average number which showed on the dice) for each set of 10 rolls.

Write your answers to one decimal place.

1. 3, 4, 1, 6, 2, 3, 5, 5, 1, 2
2. 4, 4, 2, 1, 6, 2, 5, 2, 3, 6
3. 6, 5, 2, 6, 4, 6, 3, 1, 2, 3
4. 1, 2, 5, 3, 1, 2, 1, 4, 2, 3

Children roll a 1-10 dice five times.

Find the mean score for each set of rolls.

Write your answers to one decimal place.

(Hint: What's a quick way to divide by 5? Divide by 10, then...)

5. 6, 2, 8, 9, 10
6. 5, 4, 7, 6, 1
7. 7, 10, 2, 3, 4
8. 8, 3, 9, 10, 7

Challenge

Hot: Tackle this challenge!

1. Write five different numbers with a mean of 10.
2. Find the mean of each set of numbers:
1, 2, 3
9, 10, 11
99, 100, 101

Can you predict what the mean of 67, 68 and 69 will be? How?

Practice Sheet Answers

Finding the mean

1. 3.2
2. 3.5
3. 3.8
4. 2.4

5. 7
6. 4.6
7. 5.2
8. 7.4

Challenge

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1, 2, 3 | Mean = 2 |
| 9, 10, 11 | Mean = 10 |
| 99, 100, 101 | Mean = 100 |

The mean of 67, 68 and 69 is 68. The mean of any three consecutive numbers is equal to the middle number. The numbers either side are one more and one less than the middle number, 'cancelling out' to give three numbers the same.

A Bit Stuck? Don't drop it!

Two children are throwing a soft ball to each other. They count how many times they can do this without dropping the ball.

Here are their scores:

4

5

6

5

A pair of socks tucked in together makes an excellent soft ball!

To find their mean score, add the four numbers; then divide by 4, the number of attempts.

$$4 + 6 + 5 + 5 = \square$$

$$\square \div 4 = \underline{\quad}$$

They have another go. Here are their scores.

5

6

7

6

Do you think they are getting better?

Do you think their mean score will be higher this time?

Calculate the mean score of these 4 attempts.

$$24 \div 4 = \square$$

They have one more go. Here are their scores.

7

8

9

8

Do you think their mean score will be higher this time? Calculate it.

Have a go yourself! Use a soft ball and throw it to another person.

How many times can you throw it without dropping it?

Do this four times.

If your total score is not a multiple of 4, use a calculator to divide by 4 to calculate your mean score.

Try again and see if you can raise your mean score...

And try again!



