

GRADE 3 LEARNING PACK

Addition & Subtraction: Efficient Strategies

Use place value, compensation and written methods to solve and check addition/subtraction problems.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Use place value, compensation and written methods to solve and check addition/subtraction problems.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Learn the idea

1 Different strategies suit different numbers.

2 Estimation helps detect unreasonable answers.

3 Inverse operations can check results.

Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Solve $398 + 247$ using partitioning or compensation.

Solve $702 - 286$ with a clear written or mental strategy.

Estimate $1,487 + 612$ before calculating.

Find and correct an error in a worked subtraction.

Check one answer using the inverse operation.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

Explain two different ways to solve one problem and compare efficiency.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Create a two-step shopping or distance problem and provide a model solution plus a check.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. Why estimate first?

2. What operation can check subtraction?

3. Is the fastest method always the best for every learner?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Addition & Subtraction: Efficient Strategies”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

To judge whether the final answer is reasonable.

2. Suggested response

Addition.

3. Suggested response

No; clear, accurate strategies matter.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:

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