ESTIMATION

To estimate means to make an educated guess based on what you already know.

You can estimate an answer to an addition or subtraction problem by rounding the numbers in the problem before adding or subtracting. The estimated answer should be close to the final answer, but probably won't be the exact final answer. Estimating saves time and steps and gives you an idea of what the final answer would be.

Let's Try It:

Estimate the answer to the following addition problem:

PREVIEW

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Esti...

So t...

You can estimate with dollar amounts as well.

$$\begin{array}{r} \$5.79 \\ - \$1.88 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$5.79 \rightarrow \$6.00$ rounded up
$- \$1.88 \rightarrow \$2.00$ rounded up

$$\begin{array}{r} \$6.00 \\ - \$2.00 \\ \hline \$4.00 \end{array}$$

Estimated Answer: $4.00 - Actual, computed answer**: $3.51**

You Try

Estimate the answer to the following problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} 379 \\ +\ 115 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

What is the best estimated answer?

Estimated Answer: 500 (by rounding 379 → 400 and 115 → 100)