

Basic Arithmetic
Skill-BUILDER # W – 12
Rounding Whole Numbers

To round a whole number to a given place value, one considers the digit immediately to the right of the digit in the given place value.

If the digit to the right is less than 5, the digit in question remains unchanged and all the digits following it will be changed to zeros.

If the digit to the right is 5 or greater, the digit in question goes up 1 and all digits following it will be changed to zeros.

Examples

1. Round 782 to the nearest tens.

Solution:

The digit in the tens place is 8 and the digit immediately to the right of it is 2.
Since 2 is less than 5, 8 will remain as 8 and 2 will become 0.
The result is 780.

We can show the work as follows:

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{78} \ 2 \approx 780 \\ <5 \end{array}$$

2. Round 10,596 to the nearest thousands.

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{10,5} \ 96 \approx 11,000 \\ =5 \end{array}$$

3. Round 21,489 to the nearest hundreds.

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{21,4} \ 89 \approx 21,490 \\ >5 \end{array}$$

4. Round 399 to the nearest tens.

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{r} \underline{39} \ 9 \\ >5 \end{array}$$

Since $9 > 5$, the 9 in the tens place has to go up to 10.

Since we can only write one digit in the tens place, we write the 0 and add the 1 to 3 giving us 400.

Note that we will also get 400 if we want to round 399 to the nearest hundred. (Check and think why!)

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Round to the given place value.

1. Round 1,601 to the nearest hundreds.
2. Round 34,058 to the nearest tens.
3. Round 127,895 to the nearest ten thousands.
4. Round 5,555,555 to the nearest millions.
5. Round 10,978,099 to the nearest hundred thousands.
6. Round 10,978,099 to the nearest millions.

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Answers

1. 1,600
2. 34,060
3. 130,000
4. 6,000,000
5. 11,000,000
6. 11,000,000

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