# Rounding Numbers: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents 

## What Is This Guide?

This step-by-step explanation to rounding numbers can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring rounding numbers together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is only just beginning to explore what rounding is or they are gaining confidence with rounding numbers up and down and want to find out more, you will find a step that matches where your child is at, then have ideas for where to go next.

Within this area of the website, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.


We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

## Rounding Numbers

## What Is Rounding?

Rounding a number means altering the value of the number slightly to make it simpler. This means it is easier to use when making rough or approximate calculations.

You can round a number up or down according to its value. If you are rounding a number to the nearest ten, look at the ones digit. If the ones digit is 5 or more, round up, if the ones digit is 4 or less, round down. For example:

76 rounded to the nearest 10 is $80 \quad 13$ rounded to the nearest 10 is 10
If you are rounding to the nearest hundred, look at the tens digit. The same rule applies - if the tens digit is 5 or more, round up, if the tens digit is 4 or less, round down. For example:

156 rounded to the nearest 100 is 200
739 rounded to the nearest 100 is 700
When rounding to the nearest 1000, you would look at the 100 digit and apply the same rule, for example:
4456 rounded to the nearest 1000 is 40006899 rounded to the nearest 1000 is 7000
In year 4, your child will be taught how to round numbers to the nearest 10,100 and 1000 . They will also learn how to round numbers with one decimal place to the nearest whole number. By the end of year 5, children are expected to be able to round numbers up to the value of $1,000,000$ to the nearest $10,100,1000,10000$ and 100,000 as well as to round decimals to the nearest tenth. In year 6 , children will continue to build on their knowledge, learning to round any number within 10 million.

As well as using the resources in this category and the keyword searches to help your child with rounding, below are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to practise and become familiar with the concept of rounding.

## Superhero Rounding

Use this superhero-themed activity to help younger children consolidate their learning of rounding to the nearest 10 . What would each number round up or down to?

## Roll It

Ask your child to roll a dice three times to create a 3 -digit number. Can they round the number to the nearest 10? The nearest 100? Now, create a 4-digit number with the dice. Can they round to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000?

## Rounding Rhyme

Teach your child the rounding rhyme:
Five to nine, climb the vine.
Zero to four, slide to the floor.

## Real-Life Rounding

Next time you are out shopping, ask your child to estimate what the price of two items might be by rounding. How can they round with decimal amounts (for example $£ 10.50$ or $£ 2.75$ )? Can they round and add three items together?

## Rounding on a Number Line

In year 4, your child will start to learn about rounding by looking at numbers on a number line and seeing which 10 s are nearest to a given 2 -digit number when placed on the number line, for example, 63 is nearer to 60 than 70 . They will then investigate this with 3 -digit numbers on a number line. You can use the activities and number lines in this rounding resource pack as a visual aid to help your child's conceptual understanding of rounding.

## Rounding to the Nearest 10, 100, 1000

At this stage, your child will move away from using number lines and start applying the rules of rounding to given numbers: if the ones digit is 5 or above when rounding to the nearest 10 , round up, if the ones digit is 4 or below, round down. They go on to apply this rule to rounding to the nearest 100 (looking at the 10s digit) and the nearest 1000 (looking at the 100s digit). Play this rounding board game together as a fun way for your child to develop this mathematical skill.


In year 4, your child will learn how to round numbers with 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number, looking at the digit in the tenths column to do this. In year 5 , they will develop their understanding further to round to the nearest tenth. You can look at this rounding decimals PowerPoint together to understand and consolidate key learning in this area.

## Rounding Any Number within 10 Million

In year 6 , your child will be expected to round any number within $10,000,000$. These challenge cards can help with your child's mastery of rounding and to test their knowledge. Explore the Parents Hub for more maths challenges, games and activities to consolidate, deepen and challenge their conceptual understanding in this area of maths at mastery level.

## Step 2

Rounding Decimals

## Step 3



# Explore and Discover More 

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.


Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.


Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!

