

Add Whole Numbers



Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to add whole numbers using the standard algorithm.

One way your child is adding is by using place value in an addition problem such as $6,859 + 2,703$.

In this problem, you can use place value to add. Add ones to ones, tens to tens, hundreds to hundreds, and thousands to thousands.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6,859 \\ + 2,703 \\ \hline 12 \\ 50 \\ 1,500 \\ 8,000 \\ \hline 9,562 \end{array}$$

Your child is also learning to use the standard algorithm for addition to add and to show **regrouping** above an addition problem. An **algorithm** is a set of steps used to solve a problem.

$$\begin{array}{r} \overset{1}{} \overset{1}{} \\ 6,859 \\ + 2,703 \\ \hline 9,562 \end{array}$$

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about adding whole numbers by doing the following activity together.



ACTIVITY ADD WHOLE NUMBERS

Do this activity with your child to add whole numbers.

- Ask your child to come up with a four-digit number that is less than 5,000. This will be the “special” number.

Example: Your child picks 3,854.

- Have your child ask a family member for a four-digit number less than 5,000.

Example: The family member picks 2,093.

- Have your child add the two numbers.

Example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3,854 \\ + 2,093 \\ \hline 5,947 \end{array}$$

- Then have your child round each number to the nearest thousand to check that his or her sum is reasonable.

Example: 3,854 rounds to 4,000.

2,093 rounds to 2,000.

$$4,000 + 2,000 = 6,000$$

Because 6,000 is close to 5,947, your child’s sum is reasonable.

- Repeat the activity. Use the “special” number and have a family member choose another four-digit number that is less than 5,000.
- Look for real-life opportunities to add numbers with your child.

