

Section One: Making Wise Buys

Introduction

Isn't it about time that mathematics helped you in the everyday world? Let's face it, shopping, going to restaurants, banking, and planning parties and holidays require intelligent decisions.

This section teaches maths skills that will increase your consumer awareness. Some of the maths skills you'll learn and practise are rounding numbers, estimating, adding, subtracting and multiplying decimals and common fractions, and using percentages. By applying these maths skills to real-life situations, you'll become a wiser and more confident consumer.

	Page
Comparison Shopping	2
Rounding	3
Multiplying Decimals	5
Supermarket Maths	6
Read the Fine Print	9
Finding Discounts	11
Discount Road	13
Instalment Buying	14
Saving for a Rainy Day	15
Let's Party!	17

Comparison Shopping

Due to school budget cuts, the principal of Central School, Mr. Alvarez, has asked students this year to purchase their own school supplies. The total cost of these supplies should not be more than \$30. Go to a local newsagency or office supplies store and record the price of the recommended items below. Then go to a second store and price each item again. Total the amounts from each store.

Item	Store 1 Price	Store 2 Price
• three-ring notebook	_____	_____
• notebook dividers (1 package)	_____	_____
• notebook paper (500 sheets)	_____	_____
• plain white paper (100 sheets)	_____	_____
• pencils (1 dozen)	_____	_____
• pens (1 dozen)	_____	_____
• pocket calculator	_____	_____
• marking pens (assorted colours)	_____	_____
• spiral notebook	_____	_____
• pocket dictionary	_____	_____
• thesaurus	_____	_____
• ruler	_____	_____
Total Cost	\$ _____	\$ _____

1. What is the difference in the total costs? _____
2. Did one store consistently have lower prices than the other? _____
3. Which school supply had the largest price difference? _____
4. Can you actually buy these supplies for less than \$30? Why or why not? _____

Finding Discounts

You've probably seen signs like these displayed in stores.

SALE • SALE • SALE New Winter Coats 20% OFF

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE!!! Everything in store . . . 50% OFF
--

So, what does 20% or 50% off mean? The % off is the percentage of discount. The discount is the amount of money saved from the regular price. How do you figure out what the discount is? First you need to know something about percentages.

What Is a Percentage?

The word *percent* means 'out of each hundred'. For example, 50 *percent* means '50 out of 100'. A 50% discount means that for every dollar spent, 50 cents is saved.

A percentage can be written as a decimal. For example, 50% is the same as 0.50. Changing a percentage to a decimal works this way:

- Step 1.** Drop the percent sign and add a decimal point to the end of the number. **25% becomes 25.**
- Step 2.** Move the decimal point two places to the left. **25. becomes 0.25**

Finding the Discount and Sale Price

Once you know how to change a percentage to a decimal, you should have little trouble figuring out discounts and sale prices. To find the discount and sale price of an \$8.00 item reduced 42%, for example, just follow these steps:

- Step 1.** Find the percentage of discount. **42%**
- Step 2.** Change the percentage to a decimal. **0.42**
- Step 3.** Multiply the regular price by the decimal to get the discount. (Round to the nearest cent if necessary.) **\$8.00 x 0.42 = \$3.36**
- Step 4.** Subtract the discount from the regular price to get the sale price. **\$8.00 - \$3.36 = \$4.64**

Section Two: The Cheque is in the Mail

Introduction

Tired of countless maths assignments in which all you do is add and subtract numbers? Have you almost given up figuring out what all those years of maths are going to do to improve your life?

This section gives you many opportunities to use your maths skills in a meaningful way. You will learn how to write and record cheques, keep balances, make deposits, and pay bills. You'll add, subtract, and multiply decimals. You'll learn how to spell out numbers and solve word problems. Most importantly, you'll apply your maths skills to the real world of money!

	Page
Checking Out Cheques	
Another Way to Pay	22
A Look at a Cheque	23
The Life of a Cheque.....	24
Working with Numbers	
Spelling Out Numbers	25
It Makes Cents!.....	27
Let's Make a Match.....	29
Adding and Subtracting Money	30
Practice Makes Perfect	31
Writing Cheques	
Filling Out Cheques	33
Recording Cheques and Deposits.....	35
Balancing Act.....	37
Depositing Money	
Analysing a Deposit Slip	39
Add It Up!	39
Mailing Cheques	
Addressing Envelopes.....	41
The Final Warm-up	43
The Cheque-Writing Project	
Making a Chequebook.....	45
Paying the Bills and Making a Deposit	46
Finishing Up.....	48