

- 1. Using a derived fact is always useful in simplifying a sum,**
e.g. $16 + 4 = 20$ therefore $17 + 4 = 21$
- 2. Always tackle the larger number first.**
e.g. $17 + 2$ is easier to manage than $2 + 17$
- 3. Find any number bonds to ten in the sum first.**
If your child knows their number bonds to 10 ($4 + 6 = 10$, $7 + 3 = 10$) it will make other sums easier.
e.g. $3 + 6 + 4 + 1 + 7$ can be broken down into two lots of 10, plus 1.
- 4. Add doubles first**
e.g. to calculate $36 + 35$, your child could double 35 and add 1.
- 5. Round up or down and compensate**
Sometimes a calculation can be made simpler by rounding one of the numbers. Your child can then we perform an addition or subtraction to compensate.
e.g. 99×5 can be rounded to $100 \times 5 = 500$.
and then we subtract 5 (i.e. $(100 - 99) \times 5$) to obtain the answer: 495.
- 6. When subtracting remember you can count up from the smaller number.**
e.g. to calculate $37 - 34$ your child may find it easiest to count up from 34 to 37.
- 7. Encourage partitioning of numbers to simplify the trickier questions**
e.g. 23×7 can be broken down into 20×7 and 3×7 .
- 8. Encourage your children to use number-lines, number squares, visual aids and even their fingers if it helps them to process methods quickly.**