

**SPECTRUM<sup>®</sup>**

# Word Problems

**GRADE  
3**



## **Focused Practice for Word Problem Mastery**

- Real world applications
- Multi-step word problems
- Fractions
- Metric and customary measurement
- Money, time, and calendar
- Graphs and probability
- Geometry
- Preparing for algebra



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**Check What You Know****Adding and Subtracting 1- and 2-Digit Numbers  
(with renaming)**

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Charlie blows up 18 balloons to decorate the house for his sister's birthday party.

1. After Charlie blows up all of the balloons, 4 of the balloons pop. How many balloons are left?  
\_\_\_\_\_ balloons
2. Charlie then buys another 36 balloons. He blows these up. How many balloons are there in total?  
\_\_\_\_\_ balloons
3. Charlie takes 16 of the balloons and ties them up outside. How many balloons are left to decorate the inside of the house?  
\_\_\_\_\_ balloons
4. Charlie's friends Kate and Di come over with some more balloons to decorate inside the house. Kate brings 15 balloons and Di brings 17 balloons. How many balloons are there in all to decorate the inside of the house?  
\_\_\_\_\_ balloons

**Lesson 1.1** Adding through 18

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Jorge collected bottles to recycle. On Monday, he collected 2 bottles. On Tuesday, he collected 4 bottles. On Wednesday, he collected 7 bottles. On Thursday, he collected 2 bottles.

1. How many bottles altogether did Jorge collect on Monday and Tuesday?

\_\_\_\_\_ bottles

**Helpful Hint**

To find the total number of bottles collected, add together:

1. the total Jorge collected for Monday and Tuesday
2. the total Jorge collected for Wednesday and Thursday

3. Jorge wants to know how many bottles he collected from Monday to Thursday. What is the total number of bottles that Jorge collected?

\_\_\_\_\_ bottles

2. How many bottles altogether did Jorge collect on Wednesday and Thursday?

\_\_\_\_\_ bottles

**Lesson 1.2** Subtracting through 18

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

In Maria's crayon collection, she has 5 red crayons, 7 green crayons, 15 blue crayons, and 3 yellow crayons.

**Helpful Hint**

To find the difference, subtract the **minuend** from the **subtrahend**:

minuend	12
subtrahend	$- 7$
difference	$\underline{\quad} 5$

1. Maria gives 1 of her red crayons away. How many red crayons does she have left?

\_\_\_\_\_ red crayons

2. Maria loses 4 of her green crayons. How many green crayons does she have left?

\_\_\_\_\_ green crayons

3. How many more blue crayons does Maria have than yellow crayons?

\_\_\_\_\_ more blue crayons

**Lesson 1.3** Adding 2-Digit Numbers

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Mike's collection of sports trading cards includes 32 baseball cards, 31 football cards, 65 basketball cards, and 21 hockey cards. At the store, he buys 17 more football cards and 24 more hockey cards.

**Helpful Hint**

To add 2-digit numbers:

1. add the ones first

2. add the tens next


$$\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ + 16 \\ \hline 38 \end{array}$$

2. How many hockey cards does Mike have in all?

\_\_\_\_\_ hockey cards

1. How many football cards does Mike have in all?

\_\_\_\_\_ football cards

3. How many baseball and basketball cards altogether does Mike have ?

\_\_\_\_\_ baseball and basketball cards

**Lesson 1.4** Subtracting 2-Digit Numbers (no renaming)

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

The weights of several animals at the City Zoo are shown in the table to the right.

Animal	Weight (in pounds)
chimpanzee	65
kangaroo	89
koala bear	12
raccoon	33

**Helpful Hint**

To find the difference between 2-digit numbers:

1. subtract the ones first

2. subtract the tens next


$$\begin{array}{r} 36 \\ - 23 \\ \hline 13 \end{array}$$

1. How much more does the chimpanzee weigh than the koala?

\_\_\_\_\_ pounds

2. How much more does the kangaroo weigh than the raccoon?

\_\_\_\_\_ pounds

3. What is the difference in weight between the heaviest and lightest animals in the table?

\_\_\_\_\_ pounds

**Lesson 1.5** Adding 2-Digit Numbers (with renaming)

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Lauren sells raffle tickets for a charity event for the youth center. Her mother, Mrs. Jordan, buys 28 raffle tickets and her father, Mr. Jordan, buys 16 tickets. One of her neighbors, Ms. Denver, buys 17 tickets and another neighbor, Mr. Washington, buys 19 tickets.

1. How many raffle tickets altogether does Lauren sell to her parents?

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets

**Helpful Hint**

To find the total number of tickets that Lauren sold, add:

1. total number of tickets sold to her parents
2. total number of tickets sold to her neighbors

3. How many total raffle tickets does Lauren sell to her parents and her neighbors?

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets

2. How many raffle tickets altogether does Lauren sell to her neighbors, Ms. Denver and Mr. Washington?

\_\_\_\_\_ tickets

**Lesson 1.6** Subtracting 2-Digit Numbers

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Becky sells lemonade on the weekend. She buys enough lemonade to sell 80 glasses. On Saturday, she sells 34 glasses. On Sunday, she sells 18 glasses.

1. How many more glasses of lemonade does Becky sell on Saturday than on Sunday?  
\_\_\_\_\_ glasses of lemonade

**Helpful Hint**

To find the number of glasses of lemonade left after the weekend:

1. subtract the number of glasses sold on Saturday from the total number of glasses
2. subtract the number of glasses sold on Sunday from the number of glasses left after Saturday

2. After Saturday, how many glasses of lemonade does Becky have left?  
\_\_\_\_\_ glasses of lemonade

3. How many glasses of lemonade does Becky have left after the weekend?

\_\_\_\_\_ glasses of lemonade



**Lesson 1.7** Adding Three Numbers

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Mr. Gonzalez's class is having Family Fun Night to raise money for the school. Students can win prizes by saving points from playing games. The table to the right shows what prizes students can claim and how many points are needed for each prize.

Prize	Points
balloon	10
keychain	22
ball	26
kazoo	35
yo-yo	38

**Helpful Hint**

To find how many points are needed to get the 3 prizes, find the prizes on the chart and add up the points listed for each prize.

1. How many points are needed to get a balloon, a keychain, and a kazoo?

\_\_\_\_\_ points

2. How many points are needed to get a keychain, a ball, and a yo-yo?

\_\_\_\_\_ points

3. How many points are needed to get a ball, a kazoo, and a yo-yo?

\_\_\_\_\_ points

**Lesson 1.8** Addition and Subtraction Practice

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Carla has a jar of marbles. In this jar, there are 32 blue marbles and 55 red marbles.

1. What is the total number of marbles in the jar?

\_\_\_\_\_ marbles

**Helpful Hint**

Add the number of green and purple marbles to the total you found after Carla removed the marbles from the jar.

3. After removing the 48 marbles, Carla adds 14 green marbles and 27 purple marbles to the jar. How many total marbles are in the jar now?

\_\_\_\_\_ marbles

2. If Carla removes 48 marbles from the jar, how many marbles will be left in the jar?

\_\_\_\_\_ marbles

**Check What You Learned****Adding and Subtracting 1- and 2-Digit Numbers  
(with renaming)**

Read the problem carefully and solve. Show your work under each question.

Four students in Ms. Miller's class collect cans of food and bring them to school for a food drive. Chelsea collects 24 cans, Chen collects 19 cans, Ayame collects 22 cans, and Jason collects 13 cans.

1. How many cans of food altogether do Ayame and Jason collect for the food drive?

\_\_\_\_\_ cans of food

3. The four students collect a total of 78 cans of food. If Chelsea forgets to bring her cans of food to school, how many cans of food does Ms. Miller's class have for the food drive?

\_\_\_\_\_ cans of food

2. How many cans of food altogether do Chelsea and Chen collect for the food drive?

\_\_\_\_\_ cans of food

4. Three students from another class also bring cans for the food drive. Greg brings 18 cans, Carlota brings 16 cans, and Juan brings 12 cans. Altogether, how many cans do these three students bring?

\_\_\_\_\_ cans of food