**How to round numbers**

1. Highlight the digit that may change.
2. Underline the digit on the right.
3. Round the highlighted digit
   * If the underlined digit is 5 or more the highlighted digit is increased by 1.
   * If the underlined digit is 4 or less the highlighted digit stays the same.
4. All the digits to the right of the highlighted digit are changed to zeros.

**"Rounding Words"**

When you hear the following words you should know that they might mean you have to round numbers:

* **estimate**
* **approximately**
* **roughly**
* **ballpark**
* **close enough**
* **around**

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| **Rules For Rounding Numbers**   * **Numbers can be rounded to the nearest ten, the nearest hundred, the nearest thousand, the nearest million, and so on.** * **If the number you are rounding is followed by 5, 6, 7, 8, or 9, round the number up. Example: 79 rounded to the nearest ten is 80** * **If the number you are rounding is followed by 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4, round the number down. Example: 74 rounded to the nearest ten is 70** * **All the numbers to the right of the place you are rounding to become zeros.** * **Rounded numbers are easier to remember and easier to use.** |

**Estimating using rounding**

Rounding helps when we are looking for an estimates amount. An estimate gives us a rough idea and it might be a little more or a little less than the exact amount. Here’s an example:

Let’s say we wanted to buy 6 pizzas and we knew they were $19 each. To get a rough idea of the total cost we can round 19 to the nearest 10 to get 20. We can then calculate 6 x $20 to give us an estimate of $120 for the total cost. Estimating is also a good way to check if our answers to a problem are reasonable.

By carrying out an estimate we can check that the answers to problems are sensible.