Think Before You Add

GOAL Decide which hundred a sum will be in, and whether a zero makes sense, before you add.

1 Which hundreds?

395 + 8 Will the sum be in the 300s or the 400s? ☐ 300s ☐ 400s

How do you know?

2 Is Ravi correct?

Ravi says: Two 3-digit numbers can never add up to 1,000.

Is Ravi correct? ☐ yes ☐ no Explain why.

3 Which answer makes sense?

458 + 147 = ☐ 505 ☐ 605 ☐ 5,105

Tick the answer that makes sense. Why are the other two wrong?

4 Which hundreds?

389 + 214 Will the sum be in the 500s or the 600s? ☐ 500s ☐ 600s

How do you know?

5 Is Mia correct?

Mia says: 456 + 248 = 704 must be wrong, because a 0 in the answer means a mistake.

Is Mia correct? ☐ yes ☐ no Explain why.

Cross a Hundred, Reach 1,000

GOAL Add three-digit numbers when the sum crosses into a new hundred or reaches 1,000.

6 Estimate first

675 + 325 is about _____ + _____ = _____

Can two 3-digit numbers make a 4-digit number? _____ Digits in this sum: _____

7 Watch the trades

WORKED EXAMPLE

675 + 325 = 1,000

	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
joined	0	9	9	10
trade 1	0	9	10	0
trade 2	0	10	0	0
trade 3	1	0	0	0

	Th	H	T	O
		6	7	5
+		3	2	5
	1	1	1	
	1	0	0	0

Each row is one trade: **10** of one place make **1** of the next.

5 + 5 = 10 ones

7 + 2 + 1 = 10 tens

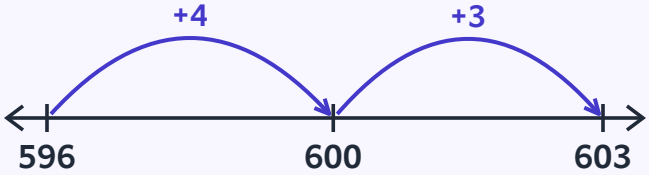
6 + 3 + 1 = 10 hundreds



10 hundreds = **1 thousand**. 0 hundreds, 0 tens, 0 ones are left: 1,000.

8 Jump to the next hundred

WORKED EXAMPLE



not to scale

596 + 7 = 603. Jump 4 to reach 600, then the other 3. The sum moves into the next hundred.

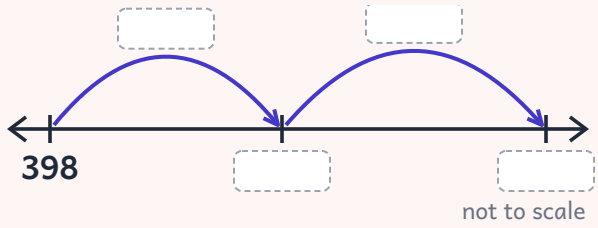
Estimate, Then Add

GOAL Jump to the next hundred, then estimate and add.

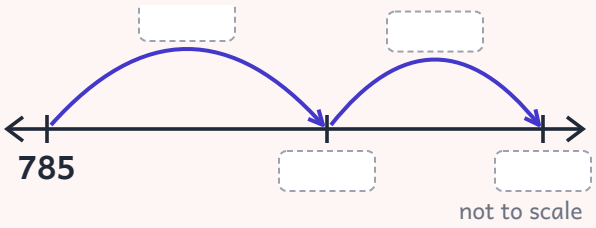
9 Your turn: jump to the next hundred

Fill in the jumps and the numbers you land on.

398 + 6 = _____



785 + 18 = _____



10 Estimate, then add

Round each number to the nearest hundred to estimate. Then add, writing each new ten or hundred in its box.

456 + 247

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		4	5	6
+		2	4	7

530 + 270

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		5	3	0
+		2	7	0

253 + 147

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		2	5	3
+		1	4	7

745 + 255

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		7	4	5
+		2	5	5

628 + 351

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		6	2	8
+		3	5	1

394 + 208

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		3	9	4
+		2	0	8

Zeros, Mistakes and 1,000

GOAL Explain a zero, catch a dropped trade, line up numbers, and make 1,000.

11 Why is there a zero?

	H	T	O
	3	6	8
+	2	3	7
	1	1	
	6	0	5

368 + 237 = 605. Why is there a 0 in the tens place of the sum?

_____

12 Check Zoe's answer

Zoe's work

	H	T	O
	5	8	6
+	2	3	7
	☐	1	
	7	2	3

Sure check: 580 + 230 = _____, and 586 + 237 is more. Is 723 reasonable? _____

What did Zoe forget?

_____

586 + 237 = _____

13 Line up the ones

Write each number in the columns, ones under ones. Then add.

348 + 52

	Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

905 + 95

	Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

767 + 38

	Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

14 Make your own

Find two 3-digit numbers whose sum is **exactly 1,000**, where **every** place trades.

_____ + _____ = 1,000

Think Before You Add

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Is Ravi correct? ☐ yes ☐ no Explain why.

3 Which answer makes sense?

458 + 147 = ☐ 505 ☐ 605 ☐ 5,105

Tick the answer that makes sense. Why are the other two wrong?

4 Which hundreds?

389 + 214 Will the sum be in the 500s or the 600s? ☐ 500s ☐ 600s

How do you know?

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Mia says: 456 + 248 = 704 must be wrong, because a 0 in the answer means a mistake.

Is Mia correct? ☐ yes ☐ no Explain why.

Cross a Hundred, Reach 1,000

GOAL Add three-digit numbers when the sum crosses into a new hundred or reaches 1,000.

6 Estimate first

675 + 325 is about _____ + _____ = _____

Can two 3-digit numbers make a 4-digit number? _____ Digits in this sum: _____

7 Watch the trades

WORKED EXAMPLE

675 + 325 = 1,000

	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
joined	0	9	9	10
trade 1	0	9	10	0
trade 2	0	10	0	0
trade 3	1	0	0	0

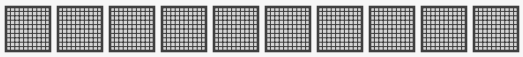
	Th	H	T	O
		6	7	5
+		3	2	5
	1	1	1	
	1	0	0	0

Each row is one trade: **10** of one place make **1** of the next.

5 + 5 = 10 ones

7 + 2 + 1 = 10 tens

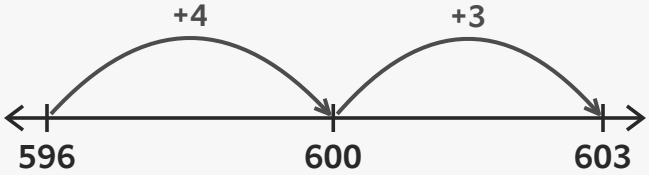
6 + 3 + 1 = 10 hundreds



10 hundreds =  **1 thousand**. 0 hundreds, 0 tens, 0 ones are left: 1,000.

8 Jump to the next hundred

WORKED EXAMPLE



not to scale

596 + 7 = 603. Jump 4 to reach 600, then the other 3. The sum moves into the next hundred.

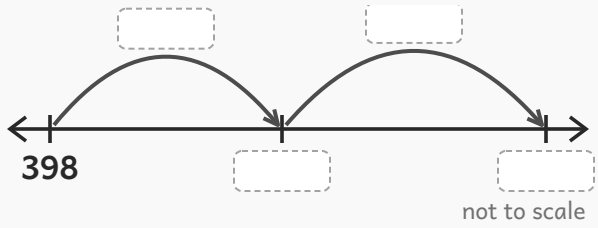
Estimate, Then Add

GOAL Jump to the next hundred, then estimate and add.

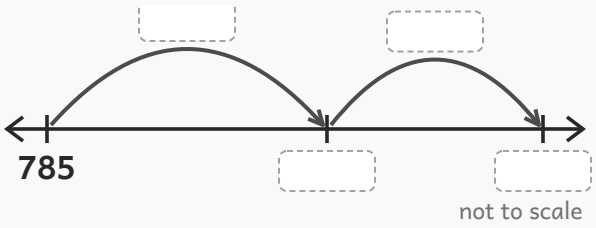
9 Your turn: jump to the next hundred

Fill in the jumps and the numbers you land on.

398 + 6 = _____



785 + 18 = _____



10 Estimate, then add

Round each number to the nearest hundred to estimate. Then add, writing each new ten or hundred in its box.

456 + 247

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		4	5	6
+		2	4	7

530 + 270

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		5	3	0
+		2	7	0

253 + 147

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		2	5	3
+		1	4	7

745 + 255

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		7	4	5
+		2	5	5

628 + 351

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		6	2	8
+		3	5	1

394 + 208

About _____

	Th	H	T	O
		3	9	4
+		2	0	8

Zeros, Mistakes and 1,000

GOAL Explain a zero, catch a dropped trade, line up numbers, and make 1,000.

11 Why is there a zero?

H	T	O
	3	6	8
+	2	3	7
	1	1	
	6	0	5

368 + 237 = 605. Why is there a 0 in the tens place of the sum?

12 Check Zoe's answer

Zoe's work

H	T	O
	5	8	6
+	2	3	7
	☐	1	
	7	2	3

Sure check: 580 + 230 = _____, and 586 + 237 is more. Is 723 reasonable? _____

What did Zoe forget?

586 + 237 = _____

13 Line up the ones

Write each number in the columns, ones under ones. Then add.

348 + 52

Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

905 + 95

Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

767 + 38

Th	H	T	O
+		☐	☐	☐

14 Make your own

Find two 3-digit numbers whose sum is **exactly 1,000**, where **every** place trades.

_____ + _____ = 1,000

Think Before You Add

Answers in blue. Accept other clear reasons.

1 Which hundreds?

395 + 8 Will the sum be in the 300s or the 400s? ☐ 300s ☑ 400s

How do you know?

395 + 5 = 400, and 3 more makes 403.

2 Is Ravi correct?

Ravi says: Two 3-digit numbers can never add up to 1,000.

Is Ravi correct? ☐ yes ☑ no Explain why.

No. 600 + 400 = 1,000. 6 hundreds and 4 hundreds make 10 hundreds, which is 1 thousand.

3 Which answer makes sense?

458 + 147 = ☐ 505 ☑ 605 ☐ 5,105

Tick the answer that makes sense. Why are the other two wrong?

505 forgets the new hundred from 10 tens. 5105 writes 10 in the tens place.

4 Which hundreds?

389 + 214 Will the sum be in the 500s or the 600s? ☐ 500s ☑ 600s

How do you know?

300 + 200 = 500, and 89 + 14 = 103, more than 100, so the sum is in the 600s.

5 Is Mia correct?

Mia says: 456 + 248 = 704 must be wrong, because a 0 in the answer means a mistake.

Is Mia correct? ☐ yes ☑ no Explain why.

No. 5 + 4 + 1 = 10 tens trade for a hundred, so no tens are left: the 0 is right.

Cross a Hundred, Reach 1,000

Answers in blue.

6 Estimate first

675 + 325 is about **700** + **300** = **1,000**

Can two 3-digit numbers make a 4-digit number? **yes** Digits in this sum: **4**

7 Watch the trades

WORKED EXAMPLE

675 + 325 = 1,000

	Thousands	Hundreds	Tens	Ones
joined	0	9	9	10
trade 1	0	9	10	0
trade 2	0	10	0	0
trade 3	1	0	0	0

	Th	H	T	O
		6	7	5
+		3	2	5
	1	1	1	
	1	0	0	0

Each row is one trade: **10** of one place make **1** of the next.

5 + 5 = 10 ones

7 + 2 + 1 = 10 tens

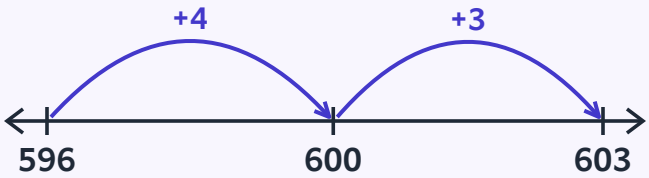
6 + 3 + 1 = 10 hundreds



10 hundreds =  **1 thousand**. 0 hundreds, 0 tens, 0 ones are left: 1,000.

8 Jump to the next hundred

WORKED EXAMPLE



not to scale

596 + 7 = 603. Jump 4 to reach 600, then the other 3. The sum moves into the next hundred.

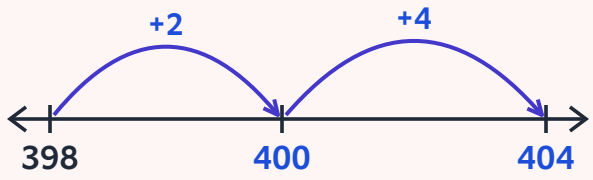
Estimate, Then Add

Answers in blue, with each new ten or hundred in its box.

9 Your turn: jump to the next hundred

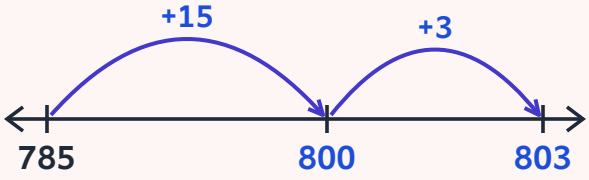
Fill in the jumps and the numbers you land on.

398 + 6 = 404



not to scale

785 + 18 = 803



not to scale

10 Estimate, then add

Round each number to the nearest hundred to estimate. Then add, writing each new ten or hundred in its box.

456 + 247

About 700

	Th	H	T	O
		4	5	6
+		2	4	7
		1	1	
		7	0	3

530 + 270

About 800

	Th	H	T	O
		5	3	0
+		2	7	0
		1		
		8	0	0

253 + 147

About 400

	Th	H	T	O
		2	5	3
+		1	4	7
		1	1	
		4	0	0

745 + 255

About 1,000

	Th	H	T	O
		7	4	5
+		2	5	5
	1	1	1	
	1	0	0	0

628 + 351

About 1,000

	Th	H	T	O
		6	2	8
+		3	5	1
		9	7	9

394 + 208

About 600

	Th	H	T	O
		3	9	4
+		2	0	8
		1	1	
		6	0	2

394 + 208: 9 + 0 + 1 = 10 tens, so the tens trade too: 602. 253 + 147: 10 ones and then 10 tens: 400. 745 + 255: every place trades: 1,000. 628 + 351: no trades.

Zeros, Mistakes and 1,000

Answers in blue. Task 14: accept any pair with ones adding to 10, tens and hundreds to 9.

11 Why is there a zero?

	H	T	O
	3	6	8
+	2	3	7
	1	1	
	6	0	5

368 + 237 = 605. Why is there *a* 0 in the tens place of the sum?

6 + 3 + 1 = 10 tens make 1 hundred, so no tens are left: 0.

12 Check Zoe's answer

Zoe's work

	H	T	O
	5	8	6
+	2	3	7
		1	
	7	2	3

Sure check: 580 + 230 = 810, and 586 + 237 is more. Is 723 reasonable? no

What did Zoe forget?

8 + 3 + 1 = 12 tens: she forgot the new hundred.

586 + 237 = 823

13 Line up the ones

Write each number in the columns, ones under ones. Then add.

348 + 52

	Th	H	T	O
		3	4	8
+			5	2
		1	1	
		4	0	0

905 + 95

	Th	H	T	O
		9	0	5
+			9	5
		1	1	1
	1	0	0	0

767 + 38

	Th	H	T	O
		7	6	7
+			3	8
		1	1	
		8	0	5

14 Make your own

Find two 3-digit numbers whose sum is **exactly 1,000**, where **every** place trades.

638 + 362 = 1,000

Cross a Hundred, Reach 1,000: teaching notes

GOAL

Student goal: add three-digit numbers when the sum crosses into a new hundred or reaches 1,000, and explain a zero in the sum.
Precisely: chained compositions within 1,000 (ones to tens to hundreds, and 10 hundreds to 1 thousand), zeros in addends and sums, numbers of different lengths, and checking with an estimate.

THINK BEFORE YOU ADD (TASKS 1–5)

Five ways to reason before adding: which hundred 395 + 8 lands in, a claim that 1,000 is out of reach (Ravi), the answer that makes sense (505 drops the new hundred), which hundreds, and a claim that a 0 in the sum is a mistake (Mia). Ask for reasons, not sums.

BEFORE THIS LESSON

One trade at a time (B20, B21) and two trades in one sum (B22). **Quick check:** "What is 10 tens? What is 10 hundreds?" "What is 596 + 4?"

WHY THIS IS THE THREE-DIGIT VERSION OF C36

C36 (four digits) is about many trades and a sum with one more digit. With three-digit numbers the same ideas stop at 1,000: Grade 2 and 3 standards are "within 1,000" (NC: "up to and including 1,000"). So this lesson keeps chained trades, zeros, lining up and estimating, and the only four-digit sum is exactly 1,000. The trade ladder of C36 is not needed with three places; blocks and the chart still work.

LAUNCH (TASK 6)

Estimate 675 + 325 before adding: 700 + 300 = 1,000. Ask: "Can two three-digit numbers make a four-digit number?" Many students think 999 is the most they can make.

TEACH (TASKS 7–9)

Walk the chart one row at a time. At each row ask: *"How many did we get? Can this place hold that many? What moves on?"* Show 10 flats becoming a thousand cube. Then the number line: 596 + 7 jumps to 600 first, a bridge students use in their heads.

PRACTICE (TASK 10)

The six sums differ on purpose: a zero in the tens (456 + 247 = 703), the tens alone making a hundred (530 + 270), two zeros (253 + 147 = 400), exactly 1,000, no trades (628 + 351) and a trade through a zero (394 + 208: 9 + 0 + 1 = 10 tens). Estimate first so a wrong hundred stands out.

Cross a Hundred, Reach 1,000: teaching notes (continued)

MISCONCEPTIONS AND RESPONSES

- **Thinks a 0 in the sum means a mistake** (605, 400). Use the chart: 10 tens trade away completely.
- **Thinks 999 is the most** (the brief's misconception). 999 + 1 on the number line; then 675 + 325.
- **Drops a trade when two happen in a row** (Zoe's 723). Use the sure check: more than 580 + 230 = 810.
- **Left-aligns a shorter number** (52 under 34_). Task 13 makes students place each digit; ask what each digit is worth.
- **Writes 10 in one column** (5 10 5 for 368 + 237). "Can a place hold 10?"

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

Secure: correct sums including 400, 602 and 1,000, sensible estimates, and Zoe's error found with the sure check. Developing: correct procedure but no checking. Needs support: dropped trades; return to B21–B22 with blocks.

SUPPORT AND EXTENSION

Support: do task 10 with blocks, starting with 530 + 270 and 628 + 351. Rounding to the nearest hundred is Grade 3 (3.NBT.A.1): in Grade 2, ask "Which hundred is it closest to?" or give the estimates. **Extension (beyond Grade 2–3):** "What is the biggest sum two three-digit numbers can make?" (999 + 999 = 1,998.) "How many pairs make exactly 1,000 with every place trading?" 9 × 10 × 8 = **720**, counting 638 + 362 and 362 + 638 as two (360 as one).

STANDARDS

Set	Direct	Supporting
Common Core	2.NBT.B.7 (sums up to 1,000); 2.NBT.B.9 (explaining a zero); 3.NBT.A.2	2.NBT.A.1a (10 tens make 1 hundred); 3.NBT.A.1 (rounding to estimate)
NC 2017 (current)	NC.2.NBT.7; NC.3.NBT.2 ("up to and including 1,000")	NC.2.NBT.1
NC 2026 (adopted; from 2028–29)	2.ANR.7.2; 2.ANR.7.3; 3.ANR.2.2; 3.ANR.2.3	3.ANR.6.2 (estimating)
Florida B.E.S.T.	MA.2.NSO.2.4 (Grade 2 "explore", sums up to 1,000); MA.3.NSO.2.1	
Texas TEKS	3.4(A)	3.4(B) (rounding to estimate); 2.4(C)

Standards crosswalk, verified 2026-11-04 against corestandards.org, NC DPI (2017 SCOS; 2026 SCOS adopted Oct 1, 2026, in classrooms from 2028–29), FLDOE B.E.S.T. and TEA TEKS.