

Dear Family,

This week your child is learning different strategies to add three-digit numbers.



Here are some ways he or she might find the sum $237 + 311$.

Add hundreds, tens, and ones.

$$\begin{array}{r} 237 \longrightarrow 200 + 30 + 7 \\ + 311 \longrightarrow \underline{300 + 10 + 1} \\ 500 + 40 + 8 \end{array}$$

Break numbers into hundreds, tens, and ones.

$$\begin{array}{r} 237 \longrightarrow 2 \text{ hundreds} + 3 \text{ tens} + 7 \text{ ones} \\ + 311 \longrightarrow \underline{3 \text{ hundreds} + 1 \text{ ten} + 1 \text{ one}} \\ 5 \text{ hundreds} + 4 \text{ tens} + 8 \text{ ones} \end{array}$$

Add ones, then tens, then hundreds.

$$\begin{array}{r} 237 \\ + 311 \\ \hline 8 \longleftarrow 7 + 1 \\ 40 \longleftarrow 30 + 10 \\ + 500 \longleftarrow 200 + 300 \\ \hline 548 \end{array}$$

$500 + 40 + 8$,
 $5 \text{ hundreds} + 4 \text{ tens} + 8 \text{ ones}$, and
 548 are all the same.
 $237 + 311 = 548$

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about adding three-digit numbers by doing the following activity together.



Adding Three-Digit Numbers Activity

Do this activity with your child to provide practice in adding three-digit numbers, as well as some practice in estimating sums.

- Ask your child to come up with a three-digit number less than 500. This will be the “special” number. (Example: Your child picks 385.)
- Have your child ask a family member for a three-digit number less than 500. (Example: The family member picks 209.)
- Ask your child if he or she thinks the sum of that number and the “special” number will be greater than or less than 500. (Example: Your child says it will be greater than 500.)
- Have your child add the two numbers to check his or her answer. (Example: $385 + 209 = 594$; your child was correct.)
- Repeat the process with other family members or the same person.

