

Unit 3.3

ADDING AND SUBTRACTING DECIMALS

- Remember that you can always use benchmarks to estimate.

For example:

1.3 → it's closer to 1

2.7 → it's closer to 3

So, using Benchmarks:

$$1.3 + 2.7$$

↓ ↓
closer to closer to

$$1 + 3 \longrightarrow 4$$

it turns out,
4 is a great
estimate!!

Now:

- To ADD and SUBTRACT, let's use the "vertical" technique of putting numbers right on top of each other:

$$325 + 470$$

should be written

$$325 +$$

$$470$$

Remember

- START AND GO FROM RIGHT TO LEFT.

- DON'T FORGET TO CARRY OVER!

• LET'S ADD DECIMALS TO THE MIX.

HERE IS WHAT YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER:

TO ADD AND SUBTRACT DECIMALS:

Just like
Regular
addition
+
subtraction!

- WRITE the numbers on top
of each other

- MAKE SURE THE DECIMAL POINTS
LINE UP!

- PROCEED DO WHAT YOU KNOW,
AND ADD OR SUBTRACT
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT!

EXAMPLES

• $8.85 + 12.25 + 10.9 + 9.65 + 14.4$

Line them up →

See how the
decimal points are
lined up???

8.85	+	
12.25		
10.90		
9.65		
14.40		
56.05		

ADD
THIS
WAY

Now ADD
AS YOU
NORMALLY
would

• If it makes it easier, you
can always write "0" in the spaces
that are empty.

• Let's DO SOME MORE:

$$2.876 - 0.975$$

↳ LINE THEM UP:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2.876 - \\ 0.975 \\ \hline 1.901 \end{array}$$

SUBTRACT AS YOU
DO, FROM RIGHT TO
LEFT!

Practice Always helps

↳ So make sure you do
the worksheets on the
website!