

# Estimating Sums



## Quick Review

When you do not need an exact answer, you **estimate**.

Bella has ~~58 silver stars and 21 gold stars.~~

About how many stars does Bella have?

Estimate:  $58 + 21$

Here are 3 ways to estimate.

➤ **Take Each Number to the Closest 10**

$$58 \rightarrow 60$$

$$21 \rightarrow 20$$

$$60 + 20 = 80$$

Bella has about 80 stars.

➤ **Take One Number to the Closest 10**

$$58 \rightarrow 60$$

$$60 + 21 = 81$$

Bella has about 81 stars.

➤ **Add Only the Tens Digits**

58 has 5 tens.

21 has 2 tens.

$$5 \text{ tens} + 2 \text{ tens} = 7 \text{ tens, or } 70$$

Bella has about 70 stars.

## Try These

1. Circle the better estimate for each sum.

a)  $51 + 23$

70 or 80

b)  $44 + 39$

70 or 80

c)  $38 + 16$

40 or 50

d)  $61 + 28$

80 or 90

## Practice

1. Circle the 2 numbers that will give the sum closest to:

a) 90:    40      55      36      39      18

b) 70:    22      38      60      50      59

c) 60:    14      30      39      18      28

2. Estimate each sum.

Problem	Estimate
$42 + 19$	
$38 + 22$	
$11 + 20$	
$77 + 15$	
$23 + 28$	

Problem	Estimate
$19 + 40$	
$36 + 29$	
$68 + 31$	
$43 + 19$	
$51 + 29$	

3. The estimated sum of 2 numbers is 40.  
What might the 2 numbers be?  
Give 2 different answers.

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4. Art and Carol estimate that the sum of 2 numbers is 89.  
The 2 numbers are 48 and 39.  
How might they have estimated?

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## Stretch Your Thinking

Circle the 2 numbers that will give the sum closest to 90.

12    18    46    70    81    32