Key Stage 2 Maths information for parents

2, 3 or 4 digit addition with no exchange

We start showing the column method by using practical resources either base ten blocks or place value counters and a place value chart.

Step 1: Use practical equipment or a pictorial representation to show the hundreds, tens and ones in both numbers. Write the calculation in columns





Step 2: Total the ones and write down the number at the bottom of the column; then add up the tens and then the hundreds (continue with thousands if working with a 4 digit number)

212 + 147 = 359



2, 3 or 4 digit addition with exchange

Step 1: Use practical equipment or a pictorial representation to show the hundreds, tens and ones in both numbers. Write the calculation in columns.

Mo scores 243 points in a game. Eva scores 108 points in a game. How many do they score in total?



Step 2: Add up the ones, in this example there are 11 ones, this means that we need to make an exchange. The ten ones are exchanged for one ten which is represented with the number '1' underneath the tens column on the written calculation.



Step 3: Add up the tens column remembering to include the exchanged ten from underneath

Mo scores 243 points in a game. Eva scores 108 points in a game. How many do they score in total?



Step 4: Add the hundreds column. If there is more than one exchange then repeat the exchanging process.



In the key stage 2 classrooms this reminder is used to help the children understand when to exchange

