
THE HAND-HELD CALCULATOR

Iowa Council of Teachers of Mathematics
Monograph 1976
Ann Robinson, Editor

The activities reprinted here have been selected from a monograph which is available from Ann Robinson, 2712 Cedar Heights Drive, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613.

ESTIMATION

Select the largest number in each row by estimating an approximate answer for each problem. Then use the calculator to check your accuracy.

a	b	c
1. 27×42	88×18	47×54
2. 17×28	23×27	500
3. $227 \div 46$	$462 \div 71$	$89 \div 14$
4. 32×53	142×15	668×7
5. $613 + 486$	37×32	44×24
6. $18 \div 8$	$25 \div 16$	$37 \div 25$
7. 92×39	23×65	118×9
8. $1000 - 598$	$793 - 425$	$715 - 203$
9. $13 \times 9 \times 6$	$7 \times 4 \times 8$	$15 \times 2 \times 8$
10. $490 \div 45$	$378 \div 16$	$98 \div 5$

DECODE THE MESSAGE!

You should have a quotation by a famous mathematician.

(G) = $400 - 273$

(E) = $59 + 83$

(N) = $7 (13)$

(T) = $7 \cdot 8 \cdot 6$

(C) = $42 (9)$

(F) = $19 + 18 + 17$

(S) = $14 + 18$

(D) = $18 (7)$

$$\textcircled{W} = 39 + 39 + 39$$

$$\textcircled{Y} = 26 + 49 + 18$$

$$\textcircled{B} = 9^2$$

$$\textcircled{H} = 48 + 32$$

$$\textcircled{M} = 18 + 12 + 13$$

$$\textcircled{I} = 65 + 35$$

$$\textcircled{U} = 48 + 82 + 17$$

$$\textcircled{T} = 2^3$$

$$\textcircled{S} = 28 + 42$$

$$\textcircled{A} = 7^3$$

$$\textcircled{N} = 78 + 32$$

$$\textcircled{R} = 625 \div 25$$

$$\textcircled{O} = 5^3$$

$$\textcircled{I} = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4$$

$$\textcircled{L} = 13^2 - 18$$

$$\textcircled{K} = 25 + 18 + 19$$

"

43 343 8 80 142 43 343 8 100 378 32 100 70 343

81 125 126 93 125 54 62 110 125 117 151 142 126 127 142 ,

81 147 336 24 8 378 125 91 8 343 100 110 32 91 125

8 25 147 8 80 70 ."

by Morris Kline

CALCULATOR TALK

1. Enter 0.7734 on the calculator. Turn the calculator so that you see the display upside down. What does it say?

Enter these numbers: 34, 0.5, 7714. What does each say?

2. A man was trying to decide whether to keep his car or trade it. While fiddling with his calculator, it told him what to do. To see what it said, find the sum of 1234 and 6501.
3. If you spend money recklessly, where do you wind up? Do this subtraction to find out.

$$\$13,815 - \$10,000 - \$100 - \$10 - \$1 = ?$$

Make your calculator spell out these words. Use addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

- | | |
|---------|-------------|
| 4. She | 7. Bell |
| 5. Sole | 8. Bill |
| 6. Hose | 9. HO HO HO |

Try these:

10. What did Amelia Earhart's father say the first time he saw her fly the airplane? Calculate the following: $[\cdot 023 (3) + 10141] (5) =$
11. What did the cannibals say when they saw their dinner guest getting angry? Calculate: $228440 \div 4 - 1.67 + .01 =$
12. What did Farmer Smith throw at Peter Rabbit to chase him out of the garden? Compute: $([27 (109) + 4 - .027] (2)) (9) =$

CALCULATOR TALES

1. JAWS - The movie "Jaws" has been very popular. Recall that Jaws had a very large appetite. In one day Jaws might have had 100 snacks. Multiply this number by 240,000 minnows in *one* snack. Next add the 268,869 baby squid he ate for breakfast and divide by three (the number of times Jaws burped!). Then subtract the 14,010 fish that swam out of his mouth when he yawned. Finally, add the five people he ate in the movie. Now turn the calculator around and you will know that most people think Jaws is a _____.
2. THE T-MART SPECIAL - The T-Mart department stores have a cafeteria that serves their customers. After a shopper slips by the blue light special, he can stop for a snack. The cafeteria cooks know how to make 667 different soups. The number of customers they serve a week is 3,000. Add the number of soups to the number of customers. All of the varieties of soup are homemade. Multiply by the two cooks who make the soups. Turn the calculator around and you will find that one of the soups has a _____ as an ingredient. Some of the ingredients are unusual, but the soups are very tasty. Clear the calculator and enter 2 (remember this is the number of cooks!). There is one customer who loves the soup so much that he has eaten 189,403 bowls of soup (multiply this). Other customers in the store walk by and they often say, "Look at the man _____ his soup."

SHORT STUFF - Jenny was a very tiny girl. Sometimes she wished she was a little taller. One day she purchased a calculator. A very strange thing occurred as she was working this problem: Enter 49040, subtract 411, divide by 15, mul-

tiply by 3, add 200, multiply by 5, add 7704. To her amazement the calculator which was also very tiny began spelling out words. Jenny began asking the calculator questions. When she asked the calculator what she could do about being so short, the calculator printed, "Buy _____."

4. NERVOUS PIERRE - The French chef was very excited about his new TV show. Tonight, March 13 (enter 313), was his first broadcast. He was introducing a dish named Noodle Surprise. To the 313 already entered, multiply 43 which is the number of noodles Pierre is going to use. Before the show began Pierre had some preliminary preparations to perform. First he peppered 47 noodles (add this). But alas! He had added too much and had to subtract 6,398 grains of pepper. Pierre's next step was to take the noodles and _____.
5. SELOH?? - There is an unusual animal called a Seloh which lives in the freshman lockers at Northville High School. Marvin was a curious freshman who wanted to see a Seloh. It is not easy to see a Seloh since they are very quick. Marvin began his search by first looking in locker 224. He did not find a Seloh, but add 26,020 which is the number of peanut shells he found. Next he looked in locker 99 (add this) but instead of a Seloh he found 200 orange peels (add this). Multiply your total by 2. Add 618, the locker he ran to next. He frantically opened the locker, but it was in vain, for all he found was a bunch of _____.