

Estimating Sums and Differences of Decimals

To estimate, you change numbers so they are easier to add and subtract.

Estimate $11.7 + 3.8$.

Estimate by rounding to the nearest whole number.

$$\begin{array}{r} 11.7 \\ \downarrow \\ 12 \end{array} + \begin{array}{r} 3.8 \\ \downarrow \\ 4 \end{array} = 16$$

So, $11.7 + 3.8$ is about 16.

Estimate $12.9 - 7.1$.

Estimate by rounding to the nearest whole number.

$$\begin{array}{r} 12.9 \\ \downarrow \\ 13 \end{array} - \begin{array}{r} 7.1 \\ \downarrow \\ 7 \end{array} = 6$$

So, $12.9 - 7.1$ is about 6.

Estimate each sum or difference.

1. $7.12 + 8.64$ _____

2. $12.74 - 6.11$ _____

3. $22.91 + 4.86$ _____

4. $17.4 - 12.8$ _____

5. $19.8 + 7.12$ _____

6. $31.22 - 18.3$ _____

7.
$$\begin{array}{r} 9.3 \\ + 6.27 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

8.
$$\begin{array}{r} 8.4 \\ - 3.1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

9.
$$\begin{array}{r} 4.13 \\ - 1.68 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

10.
$$\begin{array}{r} 0.31 \\ + 0.74 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

11.
$$\begin{array}{r} 24.7 \\ + 3.88 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

12.
$$\begin{array}{r} 51.99 \\ + 11.11 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

13.
$$\begin{array}{r} 24.24 \\ - 12.81 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

14.
$$\begin{array}{r} 0.79 \\ + 1.88 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

15. **Writing to Explain** Explain why 20 is **NOT** a reasonable estimate for $33.71 - 17.25$.
