

Combining the Gumnut Piles: Addition

Adding whole numbers to four digits



"When two piles come together, we add," says Biscuit. "Add the big bundles first — the thousands — then the hundreds, tens and ones. Let's have a go together!"

Worked example. $2\,350 + 1\,425$

1. Thousands: $2\,000 + 1\,000 = 3\,000$
2. Hundreds: $300 + 400 = 700$
3. Tens & ones: $50 + 25 = 75$
4. Put it together: $3\,000 + 700 + 75 = 3\,775$

If a column makes more than 9, "carry" the extra bundle to the next column — like trading ten tens for a hundred.

1. Add using any strategy. Show your thinking.

a) $340 + 250 =$ _____ b) $1\,200 + 650 =$ _____

2. Bo's burrow holds **2 350** gumnuts; Pip's hollow holds **1 425**. How many altogether?

3. Add these (watch for carrying):

a) $1\,675 + 1\,248 =$ _____ b) $3\,060 + 2\,970 =$ _____

4. On Harvest Day the friends gathered **1 850** gumnuts in the morning and **2 340** in the afternoon. What was the day's total?

5. Challenge: Find two four-digit numbers that add to exactly **5 000**. Show they work.