Rounding to 1 Decimal Place

Sometimes a number may have lots of decimal places. It may be more useful to round the number to the nearest tenth (1 decimal place). There are lots of different ways to visualise rounding decimals. This method uses a place value chart.

To round decimals:

- Represent the number using a place value chart with base-10 blocks, tokens or sketch your own.
- Draw an arrow under the tenth column, this is the place value you are rounding to.
- Circle the digit in the <u>hundredths</u> column, this is the deciding digit. If there are additional digits to the right, ignore them they will not affect the final rounded value. 3.
- If the deciding digit is less than 5, the digit you are rounding to stays the same.
- If the deciding digit is 5 or greater, round up the digit you are rounding to. 5.
- Take extra care when rounding numbers with 9 in the place value you are rounding to, as it will cause a carryover.

Example: Round 3.41 to 1 d.p.

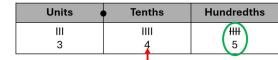
Units	• Tenths	Hundredths
III	IIII	(1)
3	4	1)
Units	Tenths	Hundredths
III	IIII	
3	4	(1)
	The deciding	digit is less than 5,

Answer: 3.4

so 4 tenths stays the same

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Example: Round 3.45 to 1 d.p.



Units	Tenths	Hundredths
III	###	(##)
3	5	5
	1	

Answer: 3.5

The deciding digit is 5, so 4 tenths rounds up to 5 tenths. Example: Round 3.46 to 1 d.p.

Units	Tenths	Hundredths
III	IIII	(+++-1)
3	4	6

Units	Tenths	Hundredths
III	HH	(HIII-1)
3	5	6

Answer: 3.5

The deciding digit is 6, so 4 tenths rounds up to 5 tenths.



