REAL LIFE MATH FOR GRADES 3-4

STORM CHASERS: A MATH PROJECT FOR ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION

In this high-interest math project, students will work addition and subtraction within 1,000 and 10,000. The following skills are incorporated:

- number lines
- interpreting charts and graphs
- money
- problem-solving
- solving unknowns
- hundred charts and more!

CREATED BY SHELLEY GRAY

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TASK

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YOU'RE A STORM CHASER!

After years of scientific research, you are ready to begin your career as a storm chaser! Let's brainstorm!

What types of things do you think you will do as a storm chaser?

You are going to have to be very careful. Storm chasing is a dangerous job! What are some dangers that you might encounter?

How do you think you will use math as a storm chaser?



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$\left(\right)$			
TASK #2	Your radar is showing that condinado! This is the moment that stor. You need to get to the storm	DOL itions are just right for a form chasers like you we has quickly as you can	
You take a look at you	ır map. You predict the tornado wi	ill touch down near the to	own of Pine
Ridae, but you are a l	ong way away! You'll need to figur	e out if you can get the	re in time.
Here's what you know	/: /:	, 3	
• You are 165 kilome	eters from Caister.		
• It is 30 kilometer	s from Rolston to Pine Ridge.		
• There are 43 kilo	meters between Caister and Rolst	on.	
Write the distances o	n the model below:		
	Caistan		Dia a Dialara
iou are	Cdister	Kolston	rine Klage
nere.			
How many kilometers	is it to Pine Ridge from where you	are riaht now?	
,		5	
Right now it is 12:10 pm	1. You predict that the storm will b	pegin at 3:30 pm. How mc	iny hours and
minutes is it until 3:30	pm'?		
12:10 pm			
If you can travel 100	kilometers in I hour, can you make	e it to the storm before i	begins?

TASK

#3

TORNADO DATA

Wow! That was like nothing you have ever experienced. Not ° only did you make it in time to see the tornado touch down, ° but you were able to gather a lot of new data.

Your tools were able to track the wind speeds of the tornado. Let's take a look at how wind speeds changed over the course of ten minutes. Transfer the data from this table onto the line graph below.

Time	Wind Speed (in kilometers per hour)
3:15 pm	65 kph
3:25 pm	IH5 kph
3:35 pm	237 kph
3:45 pm	2l kph

300 kph	<u> </u>						
225 kph							
l50 kph							
75 kph							
	3:15 pm	3:25 pm	3:35 pm	3:45 pm			
How much faster was the wind at 3:35 pm than at 3:15 pm?							

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Based on the data that you gathered, when do you think the tornado occurred? Why?

You heard of another, more severe, tornado that touched down 50 kilometers away. Its highest wind speed was 375 kilometers per hour. How much faster was its peak wind speed than the tornado that you tracked?

You expected the wind speeds to get up to double what they were at 3:25 pm. How fast did you think they would be?

By how many kilometers per hour did the wind speed change between 3:15 pm and 3:25 pm?



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TASK

#4

DEVASTATION

Even though tornados and storms excite you, you must remember they sometimes cause a lot of damage to people's property.



Luckily no one was injured in this tornado. But a lot of property was damaged in the town. This chart shows the amount of damage done by the tornado at one farm in the area. Round each amount to the nearest 100.

Damaged Item	Amount of Damage (in dollars)	Amount of Damage (rounded to the nearest 100)
Barn	\$467	
House	\$225	
Vehicles	\$689	
Fence	\$233	
Shed	\$942	
Fruit Trees	\$425	
Farm Equipment	\$851	

Rounding can be a fast way to estimate a total. Let's compare estimates to actual amounts to see how close they are.

What is the total estimated damage (use the rounded numbers) of the barn, fence, and house?

What is the actual damage of the barn, fence, and house?

How close is the estimate to the actual amount?

What is the total	estimated de	amage (use	the rounded	numbers) of	the vehicles	and fruit
trees?						

What is the actual damage of vehicles and fruit trees?

How close is the estimate to the actual amount?

In your opinion, is rounding a good way to estimate? Why or why not?

More damage was found! There was \$1,000 damage done altogether to the chicken coop and the lawn mower. You are unsure of how much damage was done to each one. Figure out some possible combinations.



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ENCOUNTERING OBSTACLES

#5

FASK

As you drive into a storm, you encounter all sorts of danger such as hail, low visibility, and pounding rain. Solve the problems below.



There's a storm 500 kilometers from where you are. Normally you can travel 115 kilometers in one hour, but because of the strong winds you'll only be able to travel 100 kilometers in one hour. About how long will it take for you to reach the storm?

You need to add some features to your storm chasing car to make it stronger. This will help it withstand hail and other dangerous weather. You have budgeted \$3,000 for these features, but it only ends up costing \$2,365. How much less was the actual expense than what you had budgeted?

The next storm is 398 kilometers away. But when you are almost there, you encounter some fallen trees on the road. You will need to take a different route. This adds another 45 kilometers to your drive. How many kilometers will you need to drive in all to get to the storm?

You are on your way to gather data at a thunderstorm when suddenly your tire goes flat. It is 12:05 pm right now, and the storm is supposed to begin at 1:55 pm. It will take 20 minutes to change your tire, and another 40 minutes to drive to the storm. Will you make it in time?

12:05 pm

#6

TOTAL RAINFALL

Part of your job is tracking the rainfall. This helps you better understand weather patterns. Let's take a look at some of your data from this week.

Complete the table below by filling in the missing spaces. All rainfall is in millimeters.

Town Name	Monday Rainfall	Tuesday Rainfall	Wednesday Rainfall	Total Rainfall from Monday to Wednesday
Woodhurst	205 mm	120 mm		565 mm
Fire Falls		140 mm	45 mm	300 mm
Pine Grove	56 mm	26 mm	20 mm	
Willowdale	135 mm		35 mm	275 mm
Duncaster	42 mm	51 mm		200 mm

Use the table to answer the questions below:

I. How much more rain fell in Woodhurst than Duncaster on Tuesday?

2. What is the total amount of rain that fell on Monday in Willowdale and Duncaster?

3. Order the Wednesday rainfall from least (smallest) to greatest (largest).

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Ч.	Explain how	you figured	out the	amount of	' rainfall in	Willowdale on T	Tuesday.
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5. Order the total rainfall (last column of the table) from least (smallest) to greatest (largest).

6. Which is greater: the amount of rain in Woodhurst and Fire Falls on Monday or Tuesday?

7. You expected it to rain 30 mm in Duncaster on Monday. How far off were you?

8. Round each **total rainfall** amount to the nearest IO:

Woodhurst _____

Fire Falls _____

Duncaster _____

Pine Grove _____

Willowdale _____

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TASK	Being a storm chaser	ATHER JC means that your frien	DKES Inds are ALWAYS telling
#/	you weather jokes.	. Here are a few you'	ve heard recently.
A: 210+130	H: 120+190	0: 160+45	V: 750+250
B: 325+375	I: 720+104	P: 700-99	W: 320+3l2
C: 500-57	J: 765-265	Q: 500-105	X: 1000-470
D: 175+50	K: 3 3+367	R: 702+13	Y: 899+8
E: 849-300	L: 109+109	S: 2 +2	Z: 135+165
F: 200-10	M: 900-120	T: 408+102	
G: 250+150	N: 175+300	U: 75+75	
What did one lig	htning bolt say to the o	ther lightning bolt?	
What's the difference $\frac{1}{907} - \frac{1}{205} - \frac{1}{150}$	erence between weathe 	er and climate?	
632 549 340	510 310 549 715	340	510 715 549 549
700 150 510	907 205 150	443 340 475	
443 218 824	780 340 510 549	-	
What did one hurr	ricane say to the other hur	rricane?	
824 310	340 1000 549	780 907	549 907 549
205 475	907 205 150		

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TASK

#8

TORNADO ALLEY

Tornado Alley is an area in the USA where tornados occur frequently.

For the past **two months**, there has been a thunderstorm every 3 days in Tornado Alley. How many thunderstorms have there been? Use the hundred chart to help you.

						0			
	2	3	Ч	5	6	7	8	q	10
- 11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	IЧ	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Ч	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
qI	92	93	٩H	95	96	97	9 8	qq	100

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Out of those thunderstorms, **about** half of them included a tornado watch. **About** how many days have had a tornado watch over the past **two months**?

At one particular thunderstorm, it rains I centimeter every	1	2	
		12	
9 minutes. How much will it rain in 100 minutes? Use the			
hundred chart to help figure this out.	31	32	3
	Ч	42	L
	51	52	6.0
	6	62	6

Ι	2	3	Ч	5	6	7	8	q	10
Н	12	13	Н	15	16	17	18	РI	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Ч	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
q	92	q 3	٩Y	95	96	97	9 8	qq	100

Fun Fact

The term "Tornado Alley" was first used in the year 1952. How many years ago was this?

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	ADI	$\mathbf{\mathbf{N}}$

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BREAKING RECORDS

It's been a record year for thunderstorms! Let's take a look at how many storms there were this summer in the country.

Month	How many thunderstorms?	Write the number
i vioini i	(Each picture represents 1,000 storms.)	withe the fluthoer.
Мау		
June		
July		
August		
September		
October		
	TOTAL NUMBER OF THUNDERSTORMS	
Use the graph	to answer the questions below:	
I. Order the n	nonths from least (smallest) number of thunderstorms	to greatest (largest)
number of 1	hunderstorms.	
2. How many r	nore thunderstorms were there in July than August?	
3. What was t	he total number of thunderstorms in June and July?	

TASK

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STORM CHASING EXPENSES

Storm chasing is an expensive job. You have to spend money on vehicles, fuel, and equipment and there is never a guarantee that you will even see the storm.

You have made it to three big tornados this year. This chart shows the expenses from each one.

Expenses	Cypress tornado	Hidden Valley tornado	Fairville tornado
Fuel	\$175	\$87	\$260
Equipment	\$2,300	\$1,850	\$2,400
Food	\$75	\$82	\$4O
Hotel	\$90	\$75	\$165

Use the graph to answer the questions below:

I. How much more expensive was the fuel for the Cypress tornado than the Hidden Valley tornado?

2. What is the total equipment expense for all of the tornados?

3. Suppose that you pay for your Fairville hotel room with one \$100 bill and five \$20 bills. How much change will you get back?

Ч.	Order	the	equipment	expenses	from	least	(smallest)	to	greatest	(largest).
							· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		J	

5. What is the difference (in dollars) between the smallest and largest fuel expense?

6. You had budgeted \$300 for hotel rooms. Are you under budget or over budget? By how much?

7. You have gotten some amazing footage of the Cypress tornado, along with a lot of important data. You were able to sell the video footage to a major news network for \$4,000. After your expenses for the Cypress tornado, how much did you make?

8. You were also able to get some great footage of the Hidden Valley tornado, but this time you were only paid \$500. If you wanted to figure out how much money you lost on this tornado, what would you do?

ANSWER KEYS



FASK

#3

TORNADO DATA

Wow! That was like nothing you have ever experienced. Not ° only did you make it in time to see the tornado touch down, ° but you were able to gather a lot of new data.

Your tools were able to track the wind speeds of the tornado. Let's take a look at how wind speeds changed over the course of ten minutes. Transfer the data from this table onto the line graph below.

Time	Wind Speed (in kilometers per hour)
3:15 pm	65 kph
3:25 pm	145 kph
3:35 pm	237 kph
3:45 pm	2l kph



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How much did the wind speed up between 3:25 pm and 3:35 pm?

237-145=92

The wind sped up by 92 kph between 3:25 pm and 3:35 pm.

Based on the data that you gathered, when do you think the tornado occurred? Why? It occurred at 3:35 because that's when the wind speeds were highest.

You heard of another, more severe, tornado that touched down 50 kilometers away. Its highest wind speed was 375 kilometers per hour. How much faster was its peak wind speed than the tornado that you tracked?

375-237=138

Its peak wind speed was 138 kph faster than the tornado that you tracked.

You expected the wind speeds to get up to double what they were at 3:25 pm. How fast did you think they would be?

145+145=290 OR 145x2=290

You thought the winds would be 290 kph.

By how many kilometers per hour did the wind speed change between 3:15 pm and 3:25 pm?

145-65=80

The wind speed changed by 80 kph between 3:15 pm and 3:25 pm.

TASK

#4

DEVASTATION

Even though tornados and storms excite you, you must remember they sometimes cause a lot of damage to people's property.



Luckily no one was injured in this tornado. But a lot of property was damaged in the town. This chart shows the amount of damage done by the tornado at one farm in the area. Round each amount to the nearest 100.

Damaged Item	Amount of Damage (in dollars)	Amount of Damage (rounded to the nearest 100)
Barn	\$467	\$500
House	\$225	\$200
Vehicles	\$689	\$700
Fence	\$233	\$200
Shed	\$942	\$900
Fruit Trees	\$425	\$400
Farm Equipment	\$851	\$900

Rounding can be a fast way to estimate a total. Let's compare estimates to actual amounts to see how close they are.

What is the total estimated damage (use the rounded numbers) of the barn, fence, and house?

\$500+\$200+\$200=\$900

What is the actual damage of the barn, fence, and house?

\$467+\$233+\$225=\$925

How close is the estimate to the actual amount?

The estimate was \$25 less than the actual amount.

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What is the total estimated damage (use the rounded numbers) of the vehicles and fruit trees?

\$700+\$400=\$1,100

What is the actual damage of vehicles and fruit trees?

\$689+\$425=\$1,114

How close is the estimate to the actual amount?

The estimate was \$14 less than the actual amount.

In your opinion, is rounding a good way to estimate? Why or why not? Rounding is a good way to estimate, because the answers are usually close.

More damage was found! There was \$1,000 damage done altogether to the chicken coop and the lawn mower. You are unsure of how much damage was done to each one. Figure out some possible combinations. Answers will vary, but here are some examples:



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ENCOUNTERING OBSTACLES

As you drive into a storm, you encounter all sorts of danger such as hail, low visibility, and pounding rain. Solve the problems below.



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There's a storm 500 kilometers from where you are. Normally you can travel 115 kilometers in one hour, but because of the strong winds you'll only be able to travel 100 kilometers in one hour. About how long will it take for you to reach the storm?



You need to add some features to your storm chasing car to make it stronger. This will help it withstand hail and other dangerous weather. You have budgeted \$3000 for these features, but it only ends up costing \$2365. How much less was the actual expense than what you had budgeted?

\$3000-\$2365=\$635

FASK

#5

The expense was \$635 lower than what you budgeted.

The next storm is 398 kilometers away. But when you are almost there, you encounter some fallen trees on the road. You will need to take a different route. This adds another 45 kilometers to your drive. How many kilometers will you need to drive in all to get to the storm?

398+45=443

You'll need to drive 443 kilometers to get to the storm.

You are on your way to gather data at a thunderstorm when suddenly your tire goes flat. It is 12:05 pm right now, and the storm is supposed to begin at 1:55 pm. It will take 20 minutes to change your tire, and another 40 minutes to drive to the storm. Will you make it in time?



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TASK

#6

TOTAL RAINFALL Part of your job is tracking the rainfall. This helps you

better understand weather patterns. Let's take a look at some of your data from this week.

Complete the table below by filling in the missing spaces. All rainfall is in millimeters.

Town Name	Monday Rainfall	Tuesday Rainfall	Wednesday Rainfall	Total Rainfall from Monday to Wednesday
Woodhurst	205 mm	120 mm	240 mm	565 mm
Fire Falls	ll5 mm	140 mm	45 mm	300 mm
Pine Grove	56 mm	26 mm	20 mm	102 mm
Willowdale	135 mm	105 mm	35 mm	275 mm
Duncaster	42 mm	51 mm	107 mm	200 mm

Use the table to answer the questions below:

I. How much more rain fell in Woodhurst than Duncaster on Tuesday?

120-51=69

69 mm more rain fell in Woodhurst than Duncaster on Tuesday.

2. What is the total amount of rain that fell on Monday in Willowdale and Duncaster?

135+42=177

177 mm of rain fell in Willowdale and Duncaster on Monday.

3. Order the Wednesday rainfall from least (smallest) to greatest (largest).

20, 35, 45, 107, 240

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Ч.	Explain how	you figured	out the	amount o	f rainfall in	Willowdale on	Tuesday.
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Total rainfall - Monday rainfall - Wednesday rainfall = Tuesday rainfall

5. Order the total rainfall (last column of the table) from least (smallest) to greatest (largest).

102, 200, 275, 300, 565

6. Which is greater: the amount of rain in Woodhurst and Fire Falls on Monday or Tuesday?

Monday: 205+115=320

Tuesday: 120+140=260

There was more rain in Woodhurst and Fire Falls on Monday than on Tuesday.

7. You expected it to rain 30 mm in Duncaster on Monday. How far off were you?

42-30=l2

You expected it to rain 12 mm less than it actually did.

8. Round each	Round each total rainfall amount to the nearest 10: Voodhurst <u>570</u> Fire Falls <u>300</u> Pine Grove <u>100</u>		
Woodhurst _	570	Fire Falls <u>300</u>	Pine Grove 100
Willowdale	280	Duncaster 200	

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TASK #7	Being	a storm c u weathe	/EAT haser me r jokes. He	CHE eans th ere are	at you a fev	JC Jr frier v you	DK nds ard 've he	ES e ALW eard re	VAYS t ecent	elling ly.
A: 210+130 B: 325+375 C: 500-57 D: 175+50 E: 849-300 F: 200-10 G: 250+150		H: 120+190 I: 720+104 J: 765-265 K: 313+367 L: 109+109 M: 900-120 N: 175+300)	0: P: Q: R: S: T: U:	160+45 700-9 500-10 702+13 211+211 408+10 75+75	5 9 05 02		V: 75 W: 3 X: 10 Y: 89 Z: 135	50+250 320+312 00-470 19+8 5+165)
What did one $\frac{Y}{_{907}} \frac{O}{_{205}}$	e lightning <u>U'R</u> 150 715 difference	bolt say to <u>E</u> ₅₄₉ between	o the othe <u>S</u> 422 weather c	er lightr - <u>H</u> 310	ning bo <u>0</u> 205	I†? ччз	K 680	<u> </u>	<u>N</u> 475	<u>G</u> ! 400
Y O 907 205 W E 632 549	U 150 A T 340 510	<u>С</u> 443 <u>-</u> <u>Н</u> <u>Е</u> 310 549	A N' 340 475	510	A 340		T 510	R 715	E 549	<mark>Е</mark> 549
B U 700 150 C L 443 218	Т 510 I М 824 780	Y O 907 205 A T 340 510	U 150 <u>E</u> .	<u>С</u> 443	<u>А</u> 340	N 475				
What did one	hurricane s <u>H A</u>	ay to the o	ther hurric	ane?	Y		E	Y	E	
824 <u>0</u> <u>N</u> 205 475	310 340 <u>Y</u> 90	1000 549 0 <u>(</u> 7 205) 150	780	YU /		544	407	D A D	

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#8

TORNADO ALLEY

Tornado Alley is an area in the USA where tornados occur frequently.

For the past **two months**, there has been a thunderstorm every 3 days in Tornado Alley. How many thunderstorms have there been? Use the hundred chart to help you.

There have been about 19 thunderstorms in the past two months.

•	Ŭ))	0 (° •)								
	Ι	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	q	10					
		12	ß	14	15	16	17	18	Ιq	20					
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30					
	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40					
	Ч	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50					
	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60					
	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70					
	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80					
	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90					
	q	92	93	qų	95	96	97	98	qq	100					

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Out of those thunderstorms, **about** half of them included a tornado watch. **About** how many days have had a tornado watch over the past **two months**?

About 9 or 10 days have had a tornado watch over the past two months.

At one particular thunderstorm, it rains I centimeter every
9 minutes. How much will it rain in 100 minutes? Use the
hundred chart to help figure this out.

It will rain II centimeters in 100 minutes.

		2	3	Ч	5	6	7	8	q	10
	=	12	I3	Н	15	16	17	18	١٩	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
1	Ч	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80
	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90
	q	92	q 3	٩H	95	96	97	9 8	qq	100

Fun Fact 🔇

The term "Tornado Alley" was first used in the year 1952. How many years ago was this?

Answers will vary depending on which year it is.

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BREAKING RECORDS

It's been a record year for thunderstorms! Let's take a look at how many storms there were this summer in the country.

	·			
Month	How many thunderstorms? (Each picture represents 1,000 storms.)	Write the number.		
Мау		5,000		
June		6,500		
July		9,000		
August		7,500		
September		4,000		
October		I ,500		
TOTAL NUMBER OF THUNDERSTORMS		33,500		
Use the graph to answer the questions below:				
I. Order the months from least (smallest) number of thunderstorms to greatest (largest) number of thunderstorms.				
October, September, May, June, August, July				
2. How many more thunderstorms were there in July than August?				
9,000 - 7,500 = 1,500				

There were 1,500 more thunderstorms in July than August.

3. What was the total number of thunderstorms in June and July?

6,500+9,000=15,500

There were 15,500 thunderstorms in June and July.

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TASK #|()

STORM CHASING EXPENSES

Storm chasing is an expensive job. You have to spend money on vehicles, fuel, and equipment and there is never a guarantee that you will even see the storm.

You have made it to three big tornados this year. This chart shows the expenses from each one.

Expenses	Cypress tornado	Hidden Valley tornado	Fairville tornado
Fuel	\$175	\$87	\$260
Equipment	\$2,300	\$1,850	\$2,400
Food	\$75	\$82	\$40
Hotel	\$90	\$75	\$165

Use the graph to answer the questions below:

I. How much more expensive was the fuel for the Cypress tornado than the Hidden Valley tornado?

175-87=88The fuel for the Cypress tornado was \$88 more expensive than thefuel for the Hidden Valley tornado.

2. What is the total equipment expense for all of the tornados?

2,300+1,850+2,400=6,550

The total equipment expense for all of the tornados is \$6,550.

3. Suppose that you pay for your Fairville hotel room with one \$100 bill and five \$20 bills. How much change will you get back?

I-\$100 and 5-\$20 bills makes \$200.

200–165=35 You'll get \$35 back.

4. Order the equipment expenses from least (smallest) to greatest (largest).

\$1850, \$2300, \$2400

5. What is the difference (in dollars) between the smallest and largest fuel expense?

260-87=173

The difference between the smallest and largest fuel expense is \$173.

6. You had budgeted \$300 for hotel rooms. Are you under budget or over budget? By how much?

Total hotel room expense: 90+75+165=\$330

\$330-\$300=\$30

You are over budget by \$30.

7. You have gotten some amazing footage of the Cypress tornado, along with a lot of important data. You were able to sell the video footage to a major news network for \$4,000. After your expenses for the Cypress tornado, how much did you make?

Cypress tornado expenses: 175+2,300+75+90=2,640

4,000-2,640=1,360

After your expenses, you made \$1,360 on the Cypress tornado.

8. You were also able to get some great footage of the Hidden Valley tornado, but this time you were only paid \$500. If you wanted to figure out how much money you lost on this tornado, what would you do?

You could take your total expenses and subtract the \$500 that you made to figure out your total loss.

Thank-you!

Thank-you for your purchase! I'd love to connect with you!

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Have a wonderful day!

Shelley

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