

Estimate Investigators Answer Key

1. Reasonable. $1,400 + 2,600 =$ about 4,000.
2. Unreasonable. $5,200 - 2,200 =$ about 3,000 books.
3. Reasonable. $50 \times 20 =$ about 1,000.
4. Reasonable. $1,800 \div 30 =$ about 60.
5. Unreasonable. $2,700 + 1,200 =$ about 3,900 cans.
6. Reasonable. $3,800 - 1,900 =$ about 1,900.
7. Reasonable. $40 \times 50 =$ about 2,000.
8. Unreasonable. $2,400 \div 40 =$ about 60 campers per group.

Teacher's Guide

- Quick implementation: Have students estimate independently before judging each fictional student's answer. Emphasize that a reasonable estimate should be close to the expected result.
- Differentiation: Allow students who need support to write rounded or compatible numbers beside each problem. Challenge advanced students to explain why each incorrect estimate is unreasonable.
- Engagement: Treat each problem as an estimation case. Students can keep a tally of how many incorrect estimates they uncover.
- Extension: Have students create one word problem with a reasonable estimate and one with a deliberately unreasonable estimate for a partner to investigate.