

SECTION
4C

Ready to Go On? Skills Intervention

4-7 Adding, Subtracting, and Multiplying Decimals

To add or subtract decimals, line up the decimals points. If one decimal number has more digits than the other, use a zero as a placeholder so that both numbers have an equal number of digits after the decimal point.

To multiply decimals, multiply as you would with integers, and then place the decimal point. The product should have the same number of decimal places as the sum of the decimal places in the factors.

Adding Decimals

Add. Estimate to check whether your answer is reasonable.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -3.623 + (-47.29) \\
 -3.623 \\
 + \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

Which number needs a placeholder? _____

Add.

Since both numbers are negative, the sum is _____

Estimate: $__ + (-47) = _____$

Is -50.913 a reasonable answer? _____

Subtracting Decimals

Subtract. Estimate to check whether your answer is reasonable.

A. $13.93 - 8.123$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \\
 - 8.123 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

Which number needs a placeholder? _____

Subtract.

Since the greater number is positive, the difference is _____

Estimate: $__ - 8 = __$

Is 5.807 a reasonable answer? _____

B. $92 - 74.631$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \\
 - 74.631 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

Which number needs a placeholder? _____

Subtract.

Since the greater number is positive, the difference is _____

Estimate: $92 - __ = __$

Is 17.369 a reasonable answer? _____

Multiplying Decimals

Multiply.

C. $0.03 \cdot 0.4$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 0.03 \\
 \times 0.4 \\
 \hline
 \\
 \hline
 \end{array}$$

2 decimal places

1 decimal place

$1 + 2 = 3$ decimal places