

Katherine Workman
3rd Grade
Maryville City Schools
Foothills Elementary

Elementary Math in the Real World

Learning about counting, money, addition, and estimating in math helps me buy things at the store. On my last birthday, my Mimi sent me \$40. I decided to buy the Lego Friends Beach House. When my mom and I went to the store, first we talked about how much it cost and how much several smaller sets cost. I decided to stick with the Beach House. It cost about \$35. Then, we talked about taxes to see if I had enough money. Taxes are about 10%. I calculated that the taxes would be about \$3.50 by moving the decimal over. Since I had \$40 to spend, I knew that I had enough money because the Beach House cost \$35 and the tax was \$3.50 so the total amount would be about \$38.50. After that, we went to the cash register. The cashier told me that the total amount was \$38.41. This was very close to my estimate. Then I very quickly counted my money. I gave her four ten dollar bills. She gave me back \$1.59. She gave me a receipt, and we walked out of the store. I was so proud that I used my math skills to make a very good purchase!