

## Calculating averages: problems - answers

Calculate the average (mean) by adding up the figures and then dividing by the number of figures:

$$\text{average} = \text{total amount} \div \text{total number of figures}$$

Calculate the average:

1. Three children in a family are 3, 5 and 7 years old. What is their average age?

The total amount of these figures is  $3 + 5 + 7 = 15$

There are 3 ages, the average is  $15 \div 3 = 5$

The average age of the children in the family is **5 years**.

2. The prices for rides at the local fairground are 60p, 75p and 90p. What is the average price of a ride?

The total amount of these figures is  $60 + 75 + 90 = 225$

There are 3 prices, the average is  $225 \div 3 = 75$

**The average price for a ride is 75p.**

3. The temperature on 3 consecutive days was  $5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ,  $7^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $6^{\circ}\text{C}$ . What was the average temperature over the 3 days?

The total amount of these figures is  $5 + 7 + 6 = 18^{\circ}\text{C}$

There are 3 temperatures, the average is  $18 \div 3 = 6^{\circ}\text{C}$

**The average temperature over the 3 days was  $6^{\circ}\text{C}$ .**

4. Four bags of potatoes weigh 1 kg, 2 kg, 4 kg and 5 kg. What is the average weight of the bags?

The total amount of these figures is  $1 + 2 + 4 + 5 = 12$

There are 4 weights, the average is  $12 \div 4 = 3$

**The average weight of a bag of potatoes is 3 kg.**

5. The number of goals scored by a football team during September was 2, 3, 5 and 6. What was the average number of goals scored?

The total amount of these figures is  $2 + 3 + 5 + 6 = 16$

There are 4 scores, the average is  $16 \div 4 = 4$

**The average number of goals is 4 goals.**