

Smarter Balanced Assessment Item Illustrating 4.NBT.A.3

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Example Stem: When rounding to the nearest thousand, which numbers round to 16,000?

Select Yes if the number rounds to 16,000. Select No if the number does **not** round to 16,000.

	Yes	No
15,179		
16,523		
15,545		

Answer Key

N; N; Y

Elaboration on Alignment

Traditional rounding items often give students a number and tell them which place to round the number to. By posing this in a slightly different way, students have the opportunity to tap into place value understanding as required by the standard. For example, a student might recognize that any number greater than or equal to 16,500 will round to 17,000 when rounded to the nearest thousand allowing him to select “No” for 16,523. Having multiple numbers for students to evaluate in these kinds of items encourages students to rely more strongly on conceptual understanding rather than engaging in more tedious procedural approaches such as rounding each number individually.

Learn More

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