Park Sales Tax Printable Pack

GRADES 2–5 | PRINT & GO

Based on the book *JJ and Andrea at the Park: Understanding Sales Tax*, this comprehensive practice pack helps young learners master the essential skill of calculating sales tax. Designed for students in grades 2 through 5, this printable resource provides hands-on practice with real-world scenarios they'll encounter at the park snack cart and beyond.

What We Learned

Key concepts summary from the book

Practice Sheets

Progressive exercises building skills

Step-by-Step Solutions

Complete answer key with explanations

5-Question Exit Ticket

Final assessment to check understanding

What We Learned at the Park

Understanding sales tax is an important real-world math skill. When JJ and Andrea visited the park, they discovered that the amount on a price tag isn't always what you pay at checkout. This page summarizes the three key concepts every student needs to master before diving into the practice problems.

01

Price Tag vs. Checkout Total

The price tag shows the **item price**. At checkout, you may pay **more** because of **sales tax**. This extra amount is added by the government to help pay for community services.

02

Percent in Plain Words

10% means "10 out of 100." A quick way to find 10%: **move the decimal one place left**. For example, $8.00 becomes $0.80 when you calculate 10% tax.

03

Paying the Right Total

Total = Subtotal + Tax. Always **check the math** before paying to make sure you're charged the correct amount and receive proper change.

Mini Example

Item: $5.00
Tax (10%): $0.50
Total: $5.50

Practice 1 — Price Tag or Checkout Total?

Before we can calculate sales tax, we need to understand the difference between what's on the price tag and what we actually pay. In this exercise, students will identify which number represents the original item price and which represents the final amount after tax has been added. Remember: if tax is added, the checkout total is always higher than the tag price.

> **Instructions:** Circle the price tag amount. Then underline the checkout total.

1	Tag: $3.50 | Total: $3.85
2	Tag: $6.00 | Total: $6.60
3	Tag: $2.25 | Total: $2.48
4	Tag: $9.75 | Total: $10.73
5	Tag: $4.00 | Total: $4.40

Quick Reminder: If tax is added, the checkout total is **higher** than the tag price.

Practice 2 — Find 10% (Sales Tax)

Now that we can identify price tags and totals, it's time to calculate the tax ourselves. Finding 10% is easier than it sounds—there's a simple trick that makes it quick. All you need to do is move the decimal point one place to the left. This practice sheet will help students master this essential shortcut through six progressive examples.

Example (show steps):
$7.00 → move decimal one place left → $0.70

Instructions: Find **10%** of each price. Show the steps.

Problem 1
$4.00 → Tax = _____

Problem 2
$8.50 → Tax = _____

Problem 3
$12.00 → Tax = _____

Problem 4
$2.30 → Tax = _____

Problem 5
$9.90 → Tax = _____

Problem 6
$15.60 → Tax = _____

Tip: 10% is the same as dividing by 10.

Practice 3 — Checkout Total

You've learned to find 10% tax—now it's time to put it all together. In real life, cashiers calculate the tax and add it to your item price to get the total amount you owe. This practice sheet walks students through the complete process: calculate the tax first, then add it to the original price to find the checkout total. This two-step process is fundamental to understanding sales tax.

> **Instructions:** Calculate tax (10%), then add it to get the total.

Problem 1

Item price: $5.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____

Problem 2

Item price: $7.50
Tax: _____
Total: _____

Problem 3

Item price: $11.25
Tax: _____
Total: _____

Problem 4

Item price: $3.80
Tax: _____
Total: _____

Problem 5

Item price: $9.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____

Formula: Total = Price + (10% of Price)

Practice 4 — Snack Cart Totals

Real shopping trips often involve buying multiple items at once. At the park snack cart, JJ and Andrea learned that you need to add up all your items first to get a subtotal, then calculate tax on that combined amount. This practice sheet presents three realistic scenarios with different combinations of park snacks and treats, helping students apply their skills to multi-item purchases they might actually make.

> **Instructions:** Add the prices to get the subtotal. Then find 10% tax. Then total.

Scenario A

Hot dog: $3.00
Juice: $2.00
Subtotal: _____
Tax (10%): _____
Total: _____

Scenario B

Pretzel: $2.50
Water: $1.25
Ice pop: $1.75
Subtotal: _____
Tax (10%): _____
Total: _____

Scenario C

Toy balloon: $4.00
Cookie: $1.50
Subtotal: _____
Tax (10%): _____
Total: _____

Check yourself: Does your total look **a little higher** than the subtotal? It should.

Practice 5 — Pay and Get the Right Change

The final step in any purchase is paying and receiving change. This advanced practice combines everything students have learned: calculating tax, finding the total, and then determining how much change they should receive. These real-world scenarios teach an important life skill—always check that you're getting the correct change back. Students will work through four problems of increasing complexity, building confidence in their ability to handle money transactions.

> **Instructions:** First find the total (10% tax). Then calculate change.

Problem 1

Item price: $6.00 | You pay: $10.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____
Change: _____

Problem 2

Item price: $8.25 | You pay: $20.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____
Change: _____

Problem 3

Item price: $3.40 | You pay: $5.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____
Change: _____

Problem 4

Subtotal of items: $12.00 | You pay: $20.00
Tax: _____
Total: _____
Change: _____

Step-by-Step Solutions

Learning happens when students can check their own work and understand where they might have made mistakes. This answer key provides complete solutions for Practice 2 and Practice 3, showing not just the final answers but the reasoning behind each calculation. Students should use this page after attempting the problems on their own, comparing their work step-by-step to identify any areas where they need additional practice.

> **Instructions:** Use this page to check your work.

Practice 2 (10% tax answers)

1. $4.00 → $0.40
2. $8.50 → $0.85
3. $12.00 → $1.20
4. $2.30 → $0.23
5. $9.90 → $0.99
6. $15.60 → $1.56

Practice 3 (Totals)

1. $5.00 → tax $0.50 → total $5.50
2. $7.50 → tax $0.75 → total $8.25
3. $11.25 → tax $1.13 → total $12.38 *(rounded to cents)*
4. $3.80 → tax $0.38 → total $4.18
5. $9.00 → tax $0.90 → total $9.90

Note (rounding): If you get 3 decimals, round to the nearest cent.

Exit Ticket — Sales Tax at the Park

The Exit Ticket is a final assessment tool that checks whether students have truly mastered the concepts in this practice pack. These five carefully designed questions cover all the key learning objectives: understanding the difference between price tags and checkout totals, calculating 10% tax quickly, finding complete totals, and determining correct change. Teachers and parents can use the scoring guide at the end to evaluate student understanding and identify any concepts that may need review.

> **Instructions:** Answer all 5 questions. No calculator needed.

1 Conceptual Understanding

What is the difference between a **price tag** and a **checkout total**?

_____
_____

_____
_____

2 Basic Calculation

Find 10% tax on $9.00:

_____

3 Complete Total

Item price is $6.50. Tax is 10%. Total is: _____

Exit Ticket — Questions 4 & 5

1 Multi-Step Problem

Subtotal is $10.00. Tax is 10%. Total is: _____

2 Change Calculation

You pay $20.00 for something that costs $13.20 (after tax). Your change is: _____

5/5

Awesome

Perfect understanding of sales tax concepts

4/5

Great

Strong grasp with minor areas to review

3/5

Keep Practicing

Good foundation, needs more work

0-2

Review Needed

Revisit "What We Learned" section

Use this scoring guide to determine next steps. Students scoring 3 or below should review the key concepts on page 2 and retry the practice problems with adult guidance. Those scoring 4-5 have demonstrated mastery and are ready to apply these skills in real-world situations.

Certificate of Completion

Congratulations on completing the Park Sales Tax Printable Pack! This certificate recognizes the hard work and dedication students have shown in mastering an important real-world math skill. Understanding sales tax is something they'll use throughout their lives, from buying snacks at the park to making larger purchases as they grow older. Print this certificate, fill it out, and display it proudly as a reminder of this achievement.

Sales Tax Checker Certificate

This certifies that:

_____

Completed: Park Sales Tax Printable Pack

Date: _____

Signature: _____

What's Next?

Continue building financial literacy skills with more practice packs and activities

Get the Book

Read the full story of JJ and Andrea's park adventure

More Resources

Explore additional accounting concepts designed for young learners

Visit accountingforgradeschoolers.com