

From The Adventures of Math Girl

Once upon a time there was a really awesome superhero named Math Girl she had the power to solve any math problem in the world she also had the ability to teach anyone how to solve math problems on their own. Math Girl lived happily in Saint Paul helping the citizens with their everyday math needs. Most people in Saint Paul didn't need help though because they had calculators as their trusty sidekicks one day the Earth's magnet shifted and all the calculators in Saint Paul stopped working. What would the people from Saint Paul do. Math Girl to the rescue! Sally Sales was working at a department store when the calculators suddenly stopped working. Oh no Sally said. How can I add up my purchases when my calculator is broken? This lady has a pair of jeans for \$32, some shoes for \$54, a headband which is \$7, and some socks which are \$3. How can I add this up? Zoom! Math Girl to the rescue! I sensed you needed some help Sally Sales. What seems to be the problem? Well said Sally, I can't add without my calculator but all the calculators are broken what am I to do? Well, let's try some mental math tricks. What's the easiest part to add asked Math Girl. Well, I guess I would add the 30 to the 50 first. Sounds good to me says Math Girl. What do you get when you do that? She asked. Well, the 30 and 50 make 80. Good 80 is a nice easy number to work with. Now what next? Well I guess I would add the 7 and the 3 because they make 10. Well that's easy enough says Math Girl. So that brings you to? 90 says Sally Sales. Great and what do you have left to add? Asked Math Girl. I guess that leaves the 4 and the 2, which makes 6, so my total is 96! Thank you thank you Math Girl!