

Local Linearity and Linear Approximations

The linear approximation to $f(x)$ near $x = x_0$ is given by $y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$ for x sufficiently close to x_0 . In other words, find the equation of the tangent line at $(x_0, f(x_0))$ and use that equation to approximate the value at the value you need an estimate for.