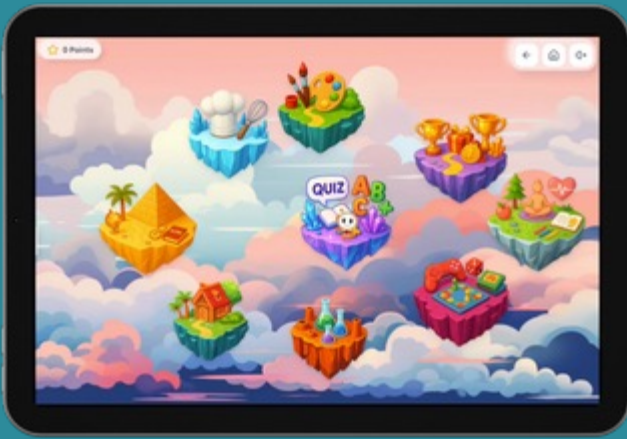


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Subtraction Word Problems - Year 1

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Subtraction Story Steps

1.

READ the story.



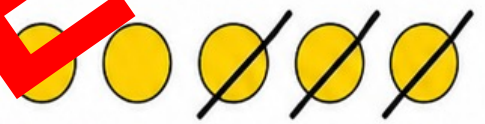
2.

FIND the whole.



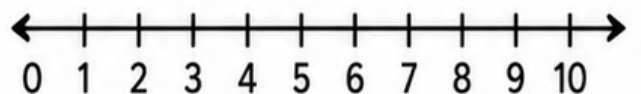
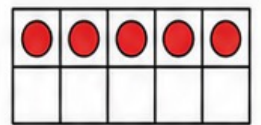
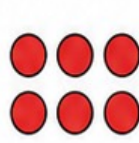
3.

FIND the part taken away or compared.



4.

CHOOSE a strategy: objects, drawing, ten-frame or number line.



5.

WRITE the number sentence.

$$\boxed{9} - \boxed{3} = \boxed{}$$

6.

CHECK: Does the answer fit the story?



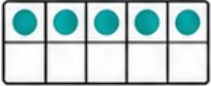
Subtraction Story Helper

1. What is the whole? 
2. What part is taken away or compared? 
3. Show it: objects, drawing, ten-frame or number line. 
4. Write and check the number sentence. 



8 birds. 3 fly away. $8 - 3 = 5$.

Subtraction Story Helper

1. What is the whole? 
2. What part is taken away or compared? 
3. Show it: objects, drawing, ten-frame or number line. 
4. Write and check the number sentence. 



8 birds. 3 fly away. $8 - 3 = 5$.

Subtraction Story Match

Cut out the equation cards. Match each equation to its story, then solve it.

- A. 7 ducks. 3 swim away.
How many are left?



- C. 6 shells. 2 are given away.
How many are left?



- E. 8 crayons. 3 are lost.
How many are left?



- B. 9 apples. 4 are eaten.
How many are left?



- D. 10 balloons. 7 pop.
How many are left?



- F. 12 blocks. 7 are packed away.
How many are left?



$$7 - 3$$

$$9 - 4$$

$$6 - 2$$

$$10 - 5$$

$$8 - 3$$

$$12 - 7$$

Act It Out Subtraction Cards

Choose a card. Build the whole with counters. Act out what happens. Say and write the subtraction sentence.

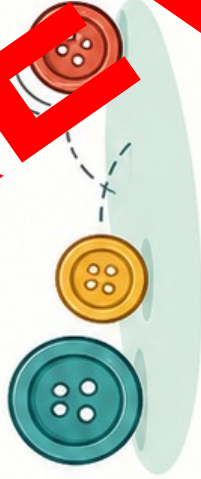
1. Start with 8 bears.

3 go home.



2. Start with 10 buttons.

4 run away.



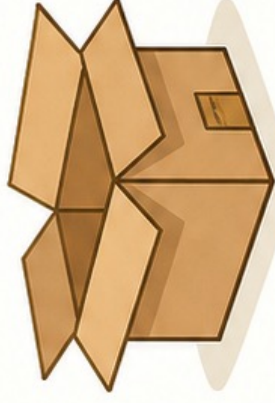
3. Start with 7 frogs.

2 jump away.



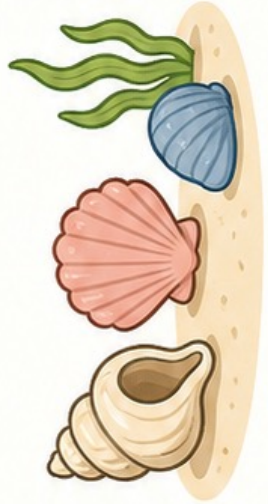
4. Start with 12 cubes.

5 are packed up.



5. Start with 9 shells.

Give 3 away.



6. Start with 6 toy cars.

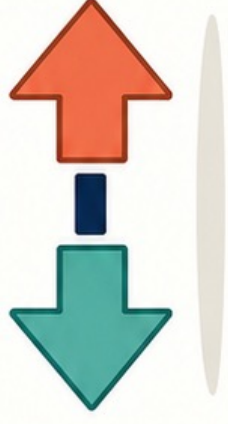
1 drives away.

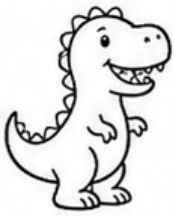


7. Show how 8 is 4 more than 4.



8. Show how 10 is 4 more than 6.





Picture It: Take Away within 10

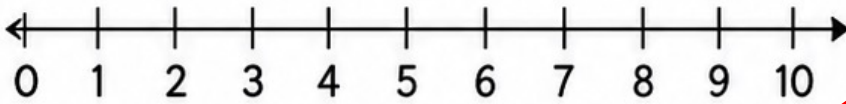


Name: _____

Read each story. Draw or cross out, then write the subtraction sentence.

1. Luca has 8 toy dinosaurs. He gives 3 to a friend. How many are left?

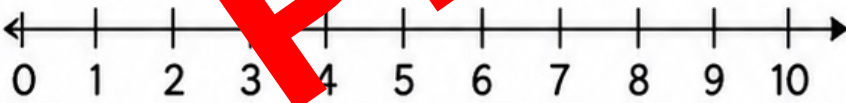
Draw or cross out.



$$\boxed{} - \boxed{} = \boxed{}$$

2. There are 9 strawberries. 4 are eaten. How many are left?

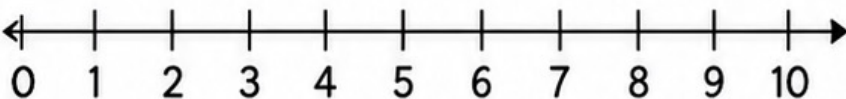
Draw or cross out.



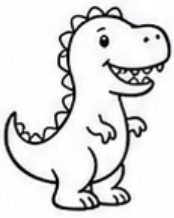
$$\boxed{} - \boxed{} = \boxed{}$$

3. A box holds 7 crayons. 2 are lost. How many are left?

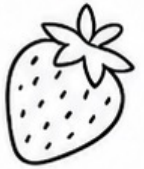
Draw or cross out.



$$\boxed{} - \boxed{} = \boxed{}$$



Picture It: Take Away within 10

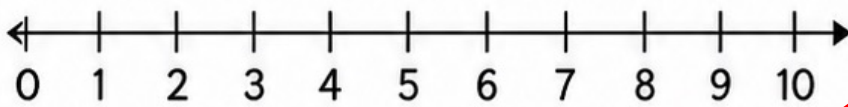


ANSWERS

Read each story. Draw or cross out, then write the subtraction sentence.

1. Luca has 8 toy dinosaurs. He gives 3 to a friend. How many are left?

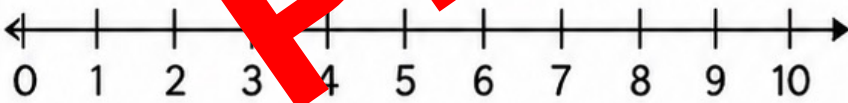
Draw or cross out.



$$\boxed{8} - \boxed{3} = \boxed{5}$$

2. There are 9 strawberries. 4 are eaten. How many are left?

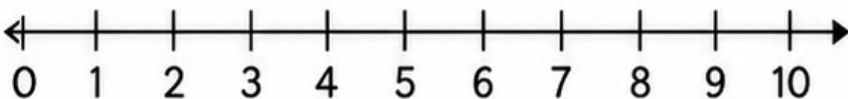
Draw or cross out.



$$\boxed{9} - \boxed{4} = \boxed{5}$$

3. A box holds 7 crayons. 2 are lost. How many are left?

Draw or cross out.



$$\boxed{7} - \boxed{2} = \boxed{5}$$



Name: _____

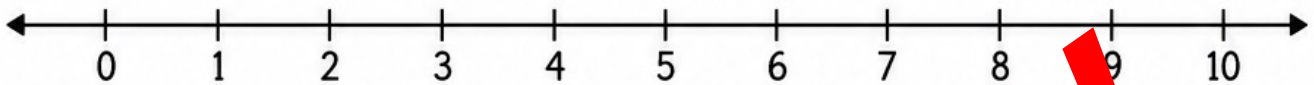
Picture It: Compare within 10



Read each story. Show both amounts, then write the subtraction sentence.

1. Ava has 9 beads. Ben has 5 beads. How many more beads does Ava have?

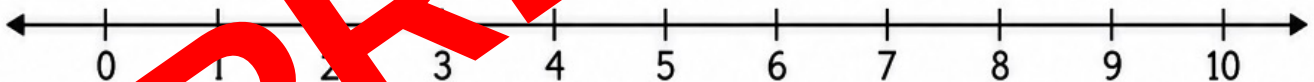
Show both amounts.



$$\square - \square = \square$$

2. There are 7 red toy cars and 3 blue toy cars. How many more red cars are there?

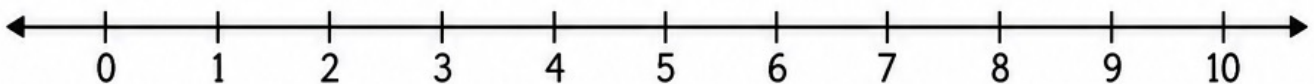
Show both amounts.



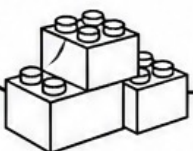
$$\square - \square = \square$$

3. Max builds a tower with 10 blocks. Mia uses 6 blocks. How many more blocks does Max use?

Show both amounts.



$$\square - \square = \square$$





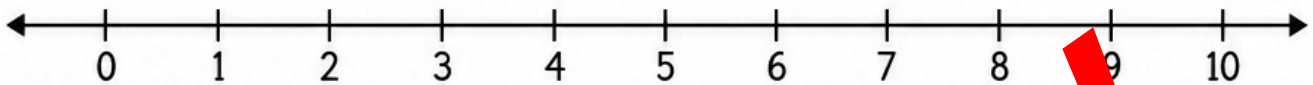
Picture It: Compare within 10



Read each story. Show both amounts, then write the subtraction sentence.

1. Ava has 9 beads. Ben has 5 beads. How many more beads does Ava have?

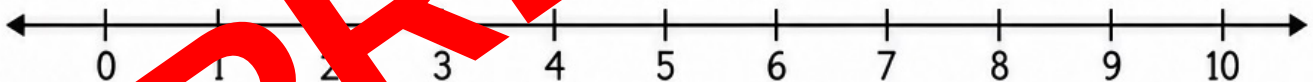
Show both amounts.



$$\boxed{9} - \boxed{5} = \boxed{4}$$

2. There are 7 red toy cars and 3 blue toy cars. How many more red cars are there?

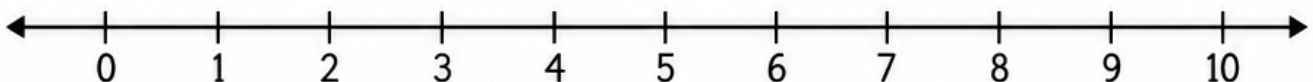
Show both amounts.



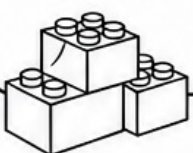
$$\boxed{7} - \boxed{3} = \boxed{4}$$

3. Max builds a tower with 10 blocks. Mia uses 6 blocks. How many more blocks does Max use?

Show both amounts.



$$\boxed{10} - \boxed{6} = \boxed{4}$$

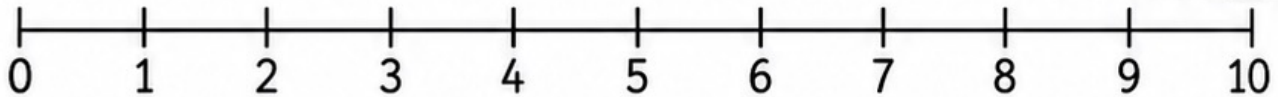


Number Line Jumps within 10

Name: _____

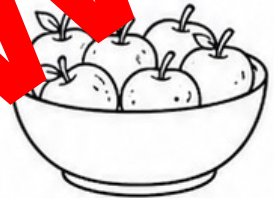
Start at the whole. Jump back the part. Write the answer.

1. Eight frogs are on a log. Three jump away.



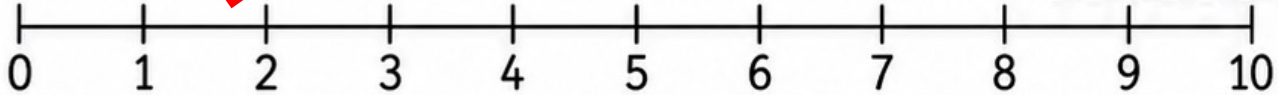
$$8 - 3 = \square$$

2. Ten apples are in a bowl. Six are eaten.



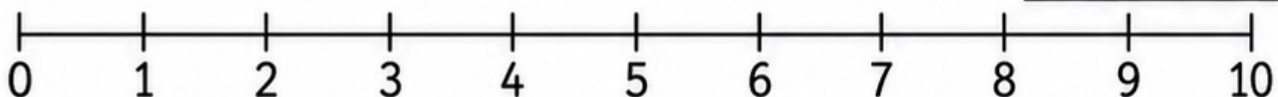
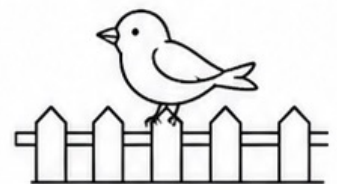
$$10 - 6 = \square$$

3. Nine boats are on the lake. Five sail away.



$$9 - 5 = \square$$

4. Seven birds sit on a fence. Four fly away.



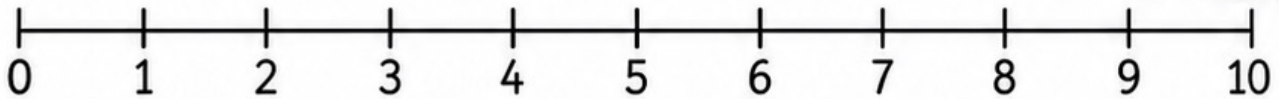
$$7 - 4 = \square$$

Number Line Jumps within 10

ANSWERS

Start at the whole. Jump back the part. Write the answer.

1. Eight frogs are on a log. Three jump away.



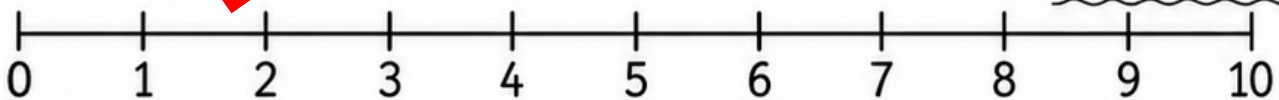
$$8 - 3 = \boxed{5}$$

2. Ten apples are in a bowl. Six are eaten.



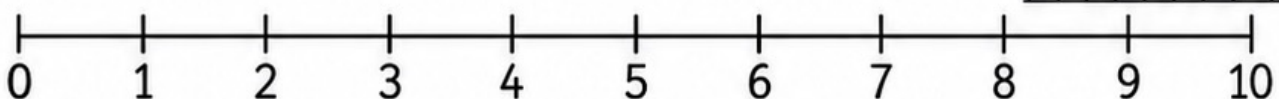
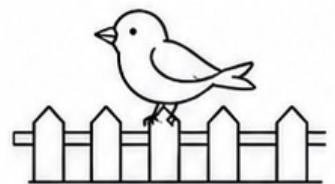
$$10 - 6 = \boxed{4}$$

3. Nine boats are on the lake. Five sail away.



$$9 - 5 = \boxed{4}$$

4. Seven birds sit on a fence. Four fly away.



$$7 - 4 = \boxed{3}$$



Name: _____

Ten-Frame Take Away



Draw the whole in each ten-frame. Cross out the part.
Write the number sentence.

1. There are 10 fireflies. 4 fly away. How many are left?

Cross out the part.

$$\square - \square = \square$$

2. Mia has 8 buttons. She gives away 4. How many are left?

Cross out the part.

$$\square - \square = \square$$

3. A train has 9 passengers. 3 get off. How many remain?

Cross out the part.



$$\square - \square = \square$$



ANSWERS

Ten-Frame Take Away



Draw the whole in each ten-frame. Cross out the part.
Write the number sentence.

1. There are 10 fireflies. 4 fly away. How many are left?

Cross out the part.

$$\boxed{10} - \boxed{4} = \boxed{6}$$

--

2. Mia has 8 buttons. She gives away 5. How many are left?

Cross out the part.

$$\boxed{8} - \boxed{5} = \boxed{3}$$

--

3. A train has 9 passengers. 3 get off. How many remain?

Cross out the part.



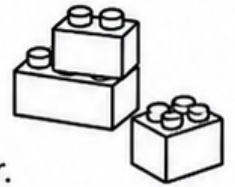
$$\boxed{9} - \boxed{3} = \boxed{6}$$

--



Name: _____

How Many More?



Draw both amounts. Subtract the smaller number from the larger number.

1. Noah has 8 markers. Zoe has 5 markers.
How many more markers does Noah have?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

-

=

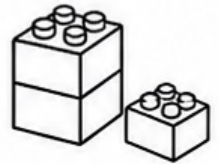
2. There are 10 red blocks and 4 blue blocks.
How many more red blocks are there?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

-

=



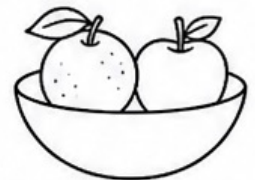
3. A bowl has 9 oranges and 7 apples.
How many more oranges are there?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

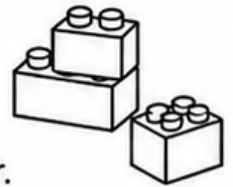
-

=





How Many More?



Draw both amounts. Subtract the smaller number from the larger number.

1. Noah has 8 markers. Zoe has 5 markers.
How many more markers does Noah have?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

8

-

5

=

3

2. There are 10 red blocks and 4 blue blocks.
How many more red blocks are there?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

10

-

4

=

6

3. A bowl has 9 oranges and 7 apples.
How many more oranges are there?

Larger amount

Smaller amount

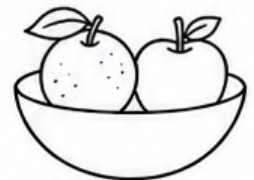
9

-

7

=

2



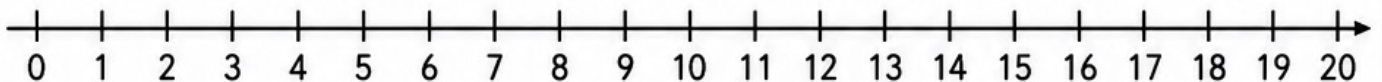
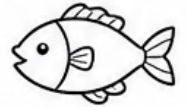
Subtraction Stories to 20



Name: _____

Choose a strategy. Show your thinking and write the answer.

1. There are 14 fish in a pond. 6 swim away.



$$14 - 6 = \boxed{}$$

2. Priya has 17 stickers. She gives 9 away.



$$17 - 9 = \boxed{}$$

3. There are 20 counters. 7 are put away.



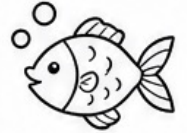
$$20 - 7 = \boxed{}$$

4. A shelf has 16 books. 8 are borrowed.



$$16 - 8 = \boxed{}$$

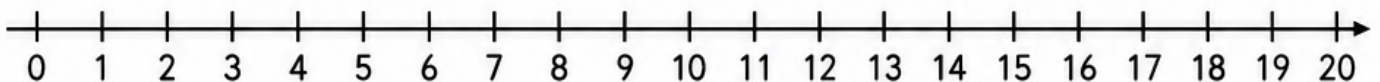
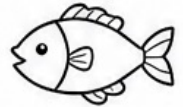
Subtraction Stories to 20



ANSWERS

Choose a strategy. Show your thinking and write the answer.

1. There are 14 fish in a pond. 6 swim away.



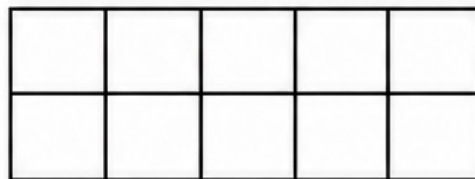
$$14 - 6 = \boxed{8}$$

2. Priya has 17 stickers. She gives 9 away.



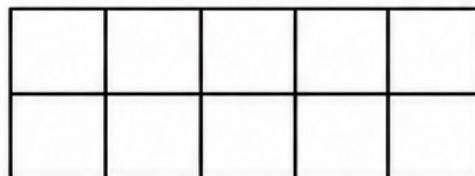
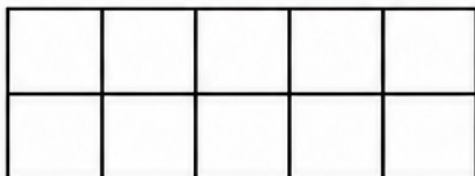
$$17 - 9 = \boxed{8}$$

3. There are 20 counters. 7 are put away.



$$20 - 7 = \boxed{13}$$

4. A shelf has 16 books. 8 are borrowed.



$$16 - 8 = \boxed{8}$$

Subtraction Story Challenge - Part A

Name: _____

Show your thinking. Write a subtraction sentence and answer each story.

1. A jar holds 9 buttons. 4 are used.
How many remain?



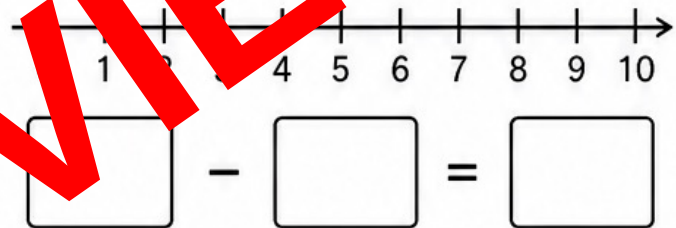
Show your thinking.

$$\square - \square = \square$$

2. Eight children are at the sandpit.
Three go inside.
How many stay outside?



Show your thinking.



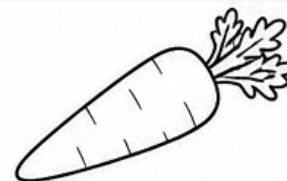
3. Lina has 7 stickers.
Omar has 5 stickers.
How many more stickers does Lina have?



Show your thinking.

$$\square - \square = \square$$

4. There are 10 carrots.
Six are eaten.
How many are left?



Show your thinking.

$$\square - \square = \square$$

Subtraction Story Challenge - Part A

Name: ANSWERS

Show your thinking. Write a subtraction sentence and answer each story.

1. A jar holds 9 buttons. 4 are used.
How many remain?



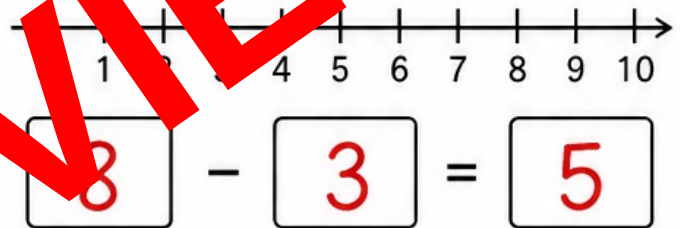
Show your thinking.

$$\boxed{9} - \boxed{4} = \boxed{5}$$

2. Eight children are at the sandpit.
Three go inside.
How many stay outside?



Show your thinking.



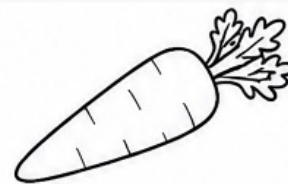
3. Lina has 7 stickers.
Omar has 5 stickers.
How many more stickers does Lina have?



Show your thinking.

$$\boxed{7} - \boxed{5} = \boxed{2}$$

4. There are 10 carrots.
Six are eaten.
How many are left?



Show your thinking.

$$\boxed{10} - \boxed{6} = \boxed{4}$$

Subtraction Story Challenge - Part B

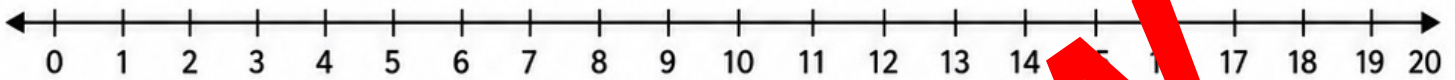
Name: _____

Show your thinking. Write a subtraction sentence and answer each story.

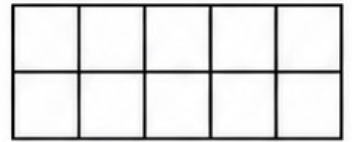
1. A basket holds 14 oranges. 6 are used for juice. How many remain?



$$\square - \square = \square$$



2. Kai has 17 marbles. He gives 8 to a friend. How many are left?



$$\square - \square = \square$$

3. There are 15 blue counters and 9 yellow counters. How many more blue counters are there?



$$\square - \square = \square$$

4. Write your own subtraction story for $13 - 5 = 8$.

Subtraction Story Challenge - Part B

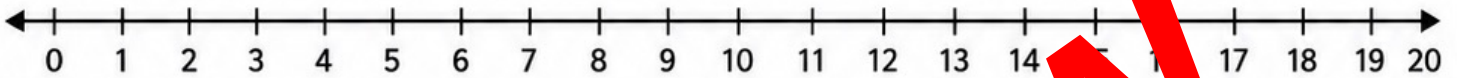
Name: **ANSWERS**

Show your thinking. Write a subtraction sentence and answer each story.

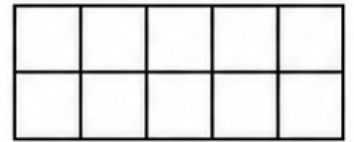
1. A basket holds 14 oranges. 6 are used for juice. How many remain?



$$\boxed{14} - \boxed{6} = \boxed{8}$$



2. Kai has 17 marbles. He gives 8 to a friend. How many are left?



$$\boxed{17} - \boxed{8} = \boxed{9}$$

3. There are 15 blue counters and 9 yellow counters. How many more blue counters are there?



$$\boxed{15} - \boxed{9} = \boxed{6}$$

4. Write your own subtraction story for $13 - 5 = 8$.

There were 13 birds. 5 flew away. 8 were left.

Subtraction Word Problems Year 1 Rubric

Student: _____ Date: _____

Criteria	BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	ACHIEVING	CONFIDENT	EXCEEDING
Understands the story	Needs help to find the whole and part.	Finds some story information with support.	Finds the whole, part and unknown.	Explains how the story parts connect.	Compares story types and identifies the unknown.
Chooses subtraction	Needs help to choose subtraction.	Sometimes chooses subtraction.	Chooses subtraction for the story.	Chooses subtraction and explains why.	Creates and solves subtraction stories.
Shows thinking	Needs help to use a model.	Shows part of the thinking.	Uses a clear model or strategy.	Uses an efficient strategy.	Connects more than one strategy.
Writes a number sentence	Needs help to record an equation.	Records part of an equation.	Records a correct subtraction equation.	Records and solves accurately.	Records accurate equations for varied stories.
Explains and checks	Needs help to check an answer.	Checks with support.	Checks that the answer fits.	Explains and checks independently.	Justifies the answer clearly.

Subtraction Word Problems

PREVIEW



Learning intention

We are learning to solve subtraction stories.
I can find the whole, the part and the unknown.



Taking away

When some leave, are used or are eaten, subtract from the whole.

8 birds - 3 birds = 5 birds remain.



Comparing amounts

Subtraction can find the difference between two amounts.

9 red counters - 6 blue counters = 3 more red counters



Read the whole story

Ask: What is happening?

Which numbers belong to the story?

What do I need to find?



Whole, part and unknown

Whole: the starting or larger amount.

Part: the amount taken away or compared.

Unknown: the answer we need to find.



Model the story

Act it out with objects or draw a quick picture.

Cross out the part that leaves, or line up two groups and compare them.



Write the number sentence.

Put the whole first.

Subtract the part.

Write the answer with a label that matches the story.



Use a ten-frame

Show the whole on a ten-frame.

Cross out the part that leaves.

Count the counters that remain.



Use a number line

Start at the whole.

Jump back the amount taken away.

The number you land on is the answer.



Worked example: take away

There are 9 apples. 4 are eaten. How many remain?

Start with 9. Take away 4.

$$9 - 4 = 5$$

Answer: 5 apples remain.



Worked example: compare

Lina has 7 stickers. Omar has 5 stickers. How many more does Lina have?

Compare 7 and 5.

$$7 - 5 = 2$$

Answer: Lina has 2 more stickers.



Choose a strategy

Objects help you act it out.

A drawing shows the story.

A ten-frame shows what remains.

A number line shows jump back.



Let's solve together

There are 14 balloons. 6 pop. How many remain?

Whole: 14 Part: 6 Unknown: how many remain

$$14 - 6 = 8$$

Answer: 8 balloons remain

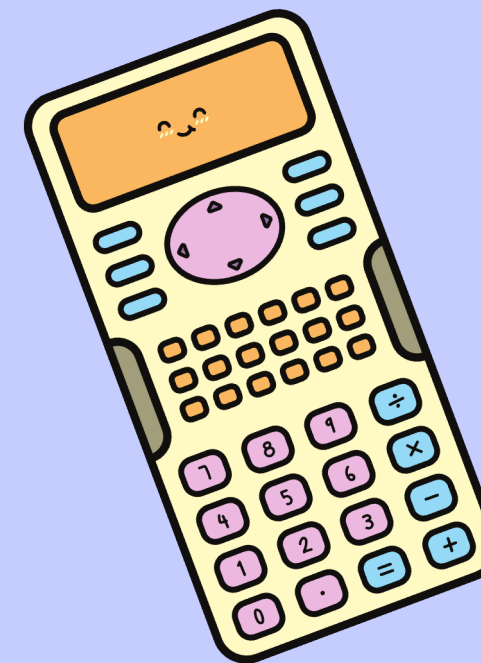
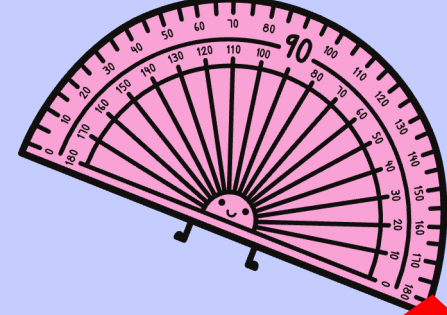
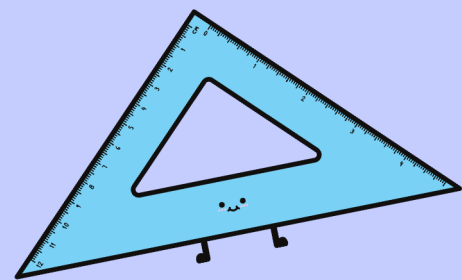
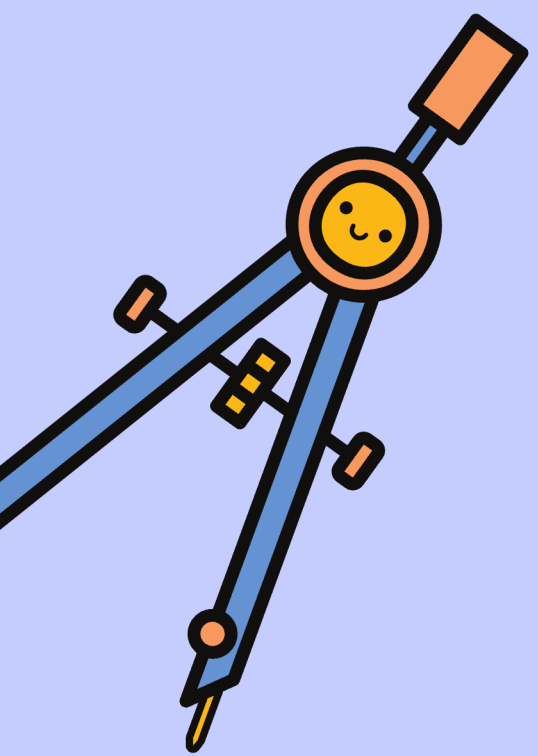


Explain and check

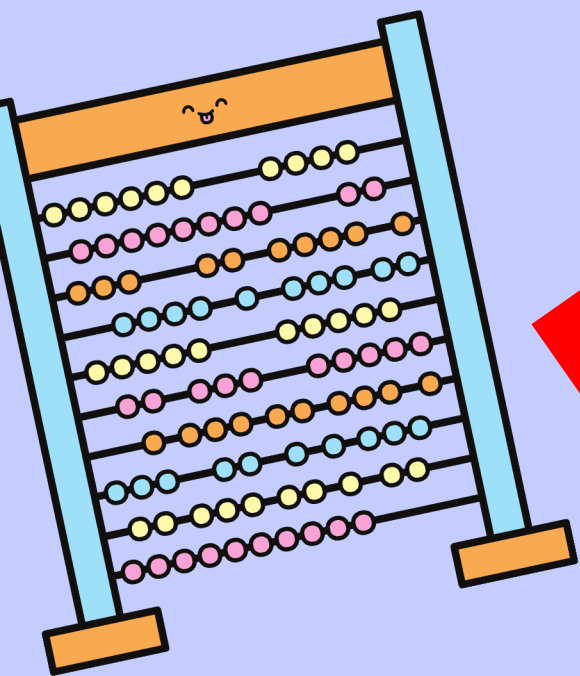
Say: I started with the whole, subtracted the parts and found the unknown.

Check: Does the answer fit the story? Is it smaller than the whole?

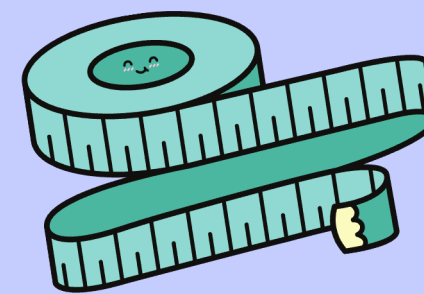
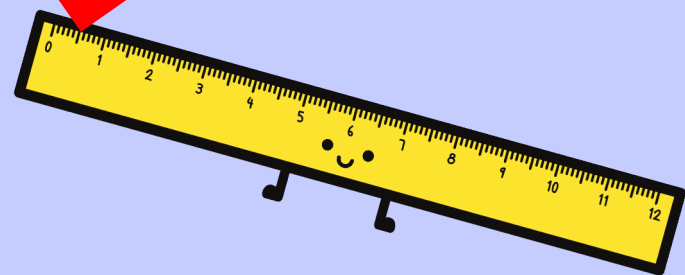




Well Done!



PREVIEW



Subtraction Word Problems

Quiz



Question 1

True or false?

Subtraction can tell how many remain after some are taken away.



Answer 1

True.

Subtraction can show a whole getting smaller when a part is taken away.



Question 2

Nine birds sit in a tree. Four fly away. Which equation matches?

A. $9 + 4 = 13$

B. $9 - 4 = 5$

C. $5 - 4 = 1$

D. $9 - 5 = 4$



Answer 2

B. $9 - 4 = 5$

The whole is 9, the part that leaves and 5 birds remain.



Question 3

Short answer

You have 8 shells and give away 3. How many shells are left?



Answer 3

5 shells

$$8 - 3 = 5$$



Question 4

Twelve blocks are on a mat. Five are packed away. How many remain?

- A. 5
- B. 6
- C. 7
- D. 17



Answer 4

C. 7 blocks

$$12 - 5 = 7$$



Question 5

True or false?

$$6 - 2 = 5$$



Answer 5

False.

$$6 - 2 = 4$$



Question 6

There are 9 red pencils and 6 blue pencils. How many more red pencils are there?

- A. 2
- B. 3
- C. 6
- D. 15



Answer 6

B. 3 more red pencils

$$9 - 6 = 3$$



Question 7

Short answer

Start at 14 on a number line and jump back 5. When do you land?



Answer 7

8

$$14 - 6 = 8$$



Question 8

Which story matches $10 - 4$?

- A. Ten apples and four more are added.
- B. Four apples are shared between ten children.
- C. Ten apples are ready and four are eaten.
- D. Four apples are ready and ten are eaten.



Answer 8

C. Ten apples are ready and four are eaten.
Six apples remain, so $10 - 4 = 6$.



Question 9

Short answer

Mia has 15 stickers and gives away 7. How many stickers remain?



Answer 9

8 stickers

$$15 - 7 = 8$$



Question 10

True or false?

A number sentence can show what happens in a subtraction story.

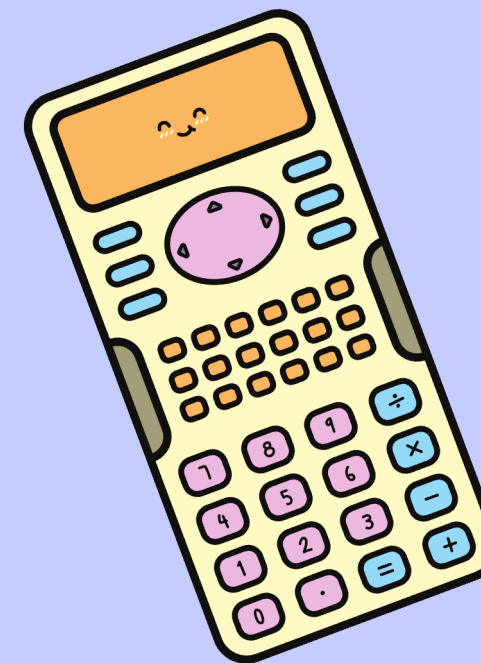
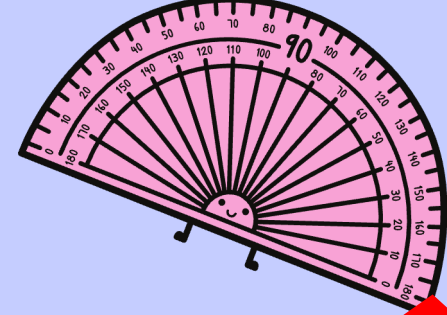
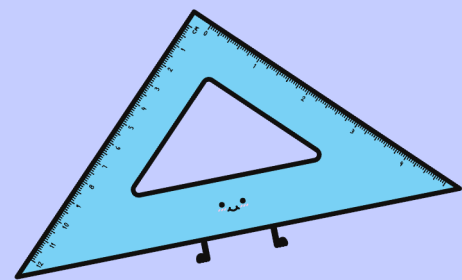
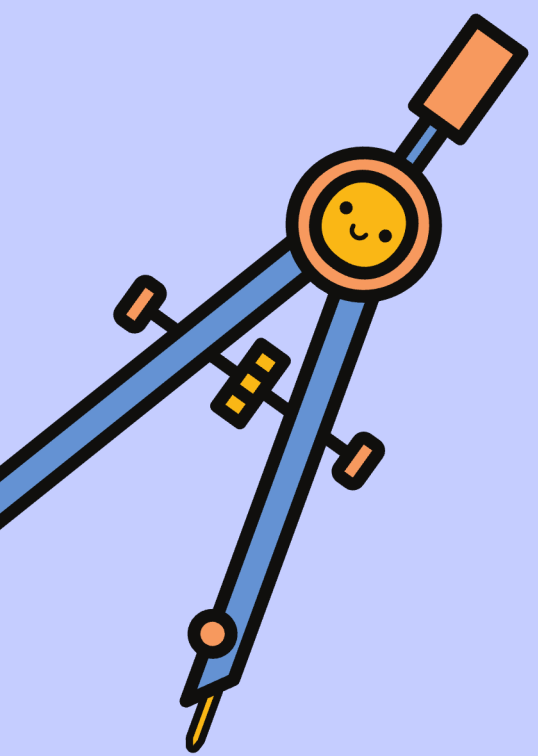


Answer 10

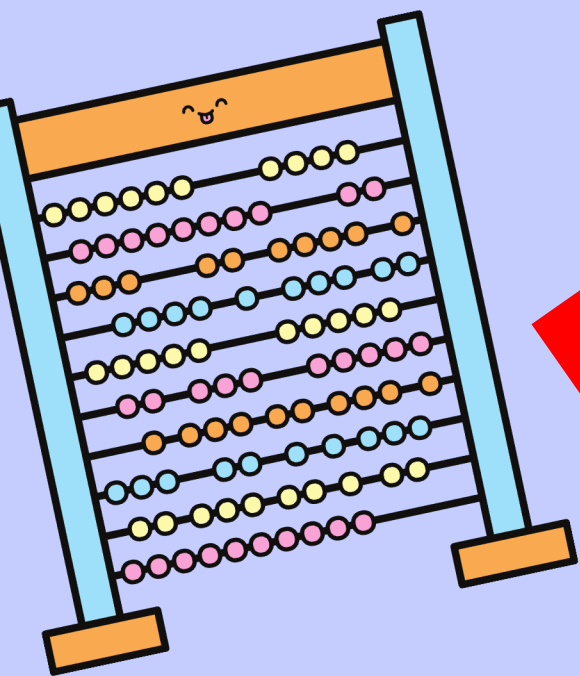
True.

A subtraction number sentence records the whole, the part and the answer.





Well Done!



PREVIEW

