

Maths - Subtraction



This week we will be recapping subtraction. Your child has already been taught the basics so this is now a chance to put all of that information into use!

This week we will be moving onto subtraction using a number line.



Don't forget to use the range of vocabulary when talking about subtraction (taking away, minus, less than).

When teaching your child about subtraction number sentences remind them that the larger number always comes first.

For example if you were using the numbers 10 and 6 you would have $10-6$ rather than $6-10$.

Have fun!



Activity 1 - Giant Number Lines

As your child becomes more confident in using pictures and cross outs to solve subtraction number sentence, we introduce the concept of number lines

It can take a long time to draw the circles to solve a problem so counting back using a number line is a quicker way to find the answer.

We always start with the children physically jumping backwards along the line to show them we count backwards when subtracting.

- Make a giant number line outside using chalks or number tiles.



- Show a number sentence (write your own or print a copy) and ask your child to think about which number to stand on to start solving the problem. **IT MUST ALWAYS BE THE LARGEST NUMBER!**
- Now explain they must jump back the amount they are taking away. Don't count back until they have started the first jump!
- Explore a range of number sentences until secure in the concept.

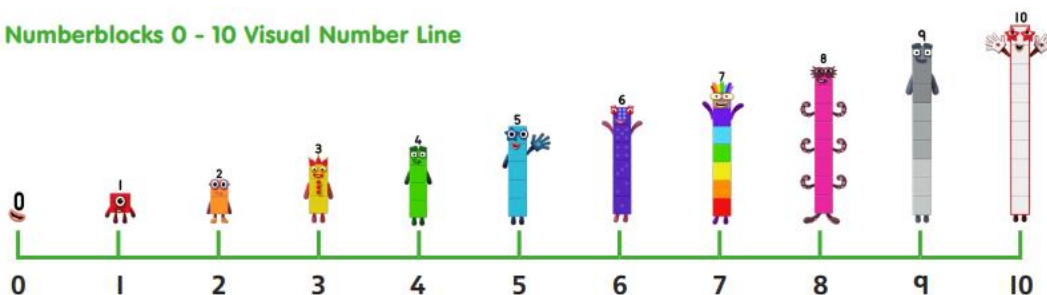
Activity 2 - Smaller Number Lines

In the home learning section there are some examples of number lines which you may wish to print.

Small number lines can be used by the children to solve trickier question more quickly (without the need to draw pictures).

It's still very important to make sure that they don't start counting the jumps back *until* they land on the number they have jumped to.

Numberblocks 0 - 10 Visual Number Line



Choose the number line that matches your child's ability.

There are more examples available online (www.twinkl.co.uk is a great place to find resources) or you can make your own.

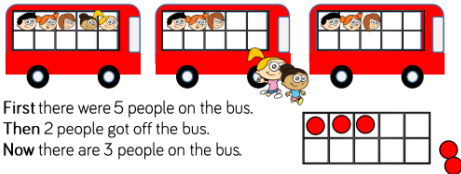
The Lego figure will jump back to solve the number sentence!



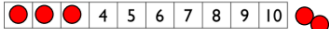
Activity 3 - Keep it up!

Using a range of different strategies will help your little one choose, and check, which methods are the best ones to use to solve a problem. The example below gives you an example of this.

Use first, then now to tell simple maths stories to practise taking away in familiar contexts.



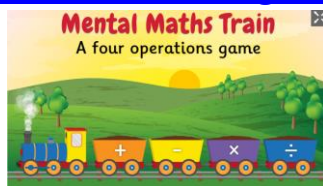
First there were 5 people on the bus.
Then 2 people got off the bus.
Now there are 3 people on the bus.



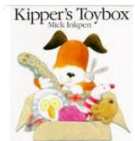
Have a look at the following activities for extra subtraction practice.

- A great game to choose some problems to solve.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/mental-maths-train>



- Sing your favourite songs together but change it up a little!
- Try reading some books with a maths theme. We share these ones at school.



Encourage the children to adapt and re-enact favourite rhymes such as 10 Green Bottles by making 1, 2, or 3 fall each time. Similarly they could have 10 Currant Buns and choose to buy 1, 2, or 3 buns each time. Prompt the children to say how many are left each time.



- A great selection of number games to choose from. These games are perfect if your little one is still learning to count accurately, read, write and order numbers to 10. Why not try the Teddy Game?

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

