MATHEMATICS · KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

Subtraction facts to 10 and 20

Difficulty level: Easy

Mathematics: Kindergarten to Grade 3

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Overview of the concept

This is how you learn small takeaways by heart, like knowing what is left after spending part of your allowance, so you can answer instantly without counting back. These are the facts that come up inside every bigger subtraction, so knowing them makes the whole calculation faster. When the small facts are instant, you can spend your attention on the borrowing and the place value, instead of on counting down. That speed is what turns subtraction from a chore into something you can do in your head.



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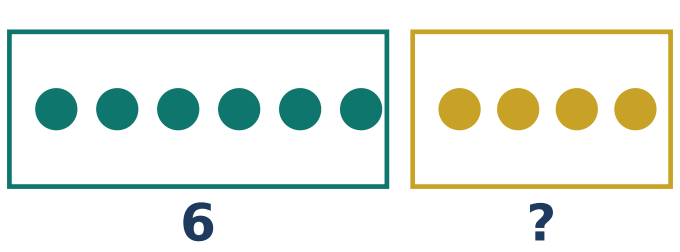
Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q 10 - 6 = ?



SOLUTION

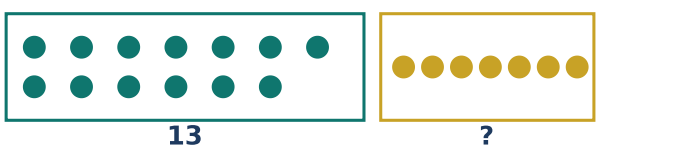
Think of the pair that makes 10: 6 + 4 = 10.

So taking 6 from 10 leaves 4.

Therefore 10 - 6 = 4

EXAMPLE 2

Q 20 - 13 = ?



SOLUTION

Think of the pair that makes 20: 13 + 7 = 20.

So taking 13 from 20 leaves 7.

Therefore 20 - 13 = 7

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Practice questions

1. A ten frame holds 10 eggs. 3 eggs are taken out. How many eggs are left?

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2. A ten frame holds 10 dots. 8 dots are crossed out. How many dots are left?

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3. A ten frame holds 10 cookies. Some are eaten and 4 are left. How many were eaten?

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4 20 marbles sit in two ten frames. 5 marbles are taken out. How many marbles are left?

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5 A sticker book has two ten frames holding 20 stickers. 11 stickers are used. How many stickers are left?

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6 A counting board shows 20 dots in two ten frames. Some dots are crossed out and 8 are left. How many dots were crossed out?

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7 A ten frame holds 10 dots and all 10 dots are crossed out. How many dots are left?

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8 A ten frame holds 10 dots. None are crossed out. How many dots are left?

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9 7 + ? = 10. What is the missing number?

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10

Which subtraction gives 10?

A 20 - 10

B 20 - 8

C 10 - 5

D 20 - 12

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ANSWER KEY

1. 7

2. 2

3. 6

4. 15

5. 9

6. 12

7. 0

8. 10

9. 3

10. 20 - 10

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