

SUBTRACTION WITHIN 10

A WHAT IS SUBTRACTION?

Definition Subtraction

Subtraction means taking away from a group to find out how many are left. The answer in subtraction is called the **difference**. In mathematics, we use special symbols for subtraction:

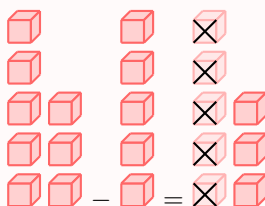
- The **minus sign** ($-$) means to subtract or take away.
- The **equals sign** ($=$) shows that the expressions on both sides have the **same value**.

Here are different ways to show "eight minus five equals three":

- **Symbolic:**

$$8 - 5 = 3$$

- **Cubes:**



- **Fingers:**



- **Words:**

eight minus five equals three

B HOW TO SUBTRACT

Method Subtracting by Taking Away

A simple way to subtract is by "taking away." You start with the total number and then put down the number of fingers you are subtracting.

Let's solve: $5 - 2 = ?$

- **Step 1: Show the starting number.** Hold up **5 fingers**. This is your total.



- **Step 2: Take away by putting fingers down.** You need to subtract 2, so put down **2 fingers**, one at a time.



- **Step 3: Count what is left.** Count the fingers that are still up. There are 3 fingers left.

The answer is 3.

$$5 - 2 = 3$$
A diagram showing the final result of the subtraction. It shows three hands: the first with 5 fingers up, the second with 3 fingers up and 2 fingers down, and the third with 3 fingers up.

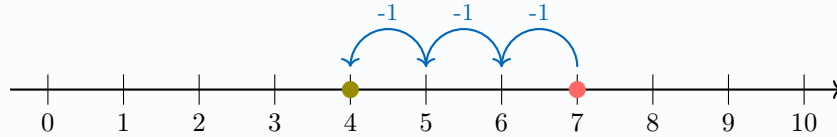
C SUBTRACTING ON THE NUMBER LINE

Method Using a Number Line to Subtract

We can also use a number line to subtract. Subtraction is like taking steps backward on a path.

Let's solve: $7 - 3$

1. **Start at the first number.** Find the number **7** on the number line. This is your starting point.
2. **Jump backward.** The second number, **3**, tells you how many jumps to make. Since we are subtracting, we move to the left, where the numbers get smaller. Make 3 jumps backward.
3. **Find your landing spot.** The number you land on is the answer.



After 3 jumps backward, you land on 4. So, $7 - 3 = 4$.