

Core Focus

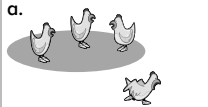
- Subtraction: Representing situations and writing equations
- Subtraction: Relating concepts and developing fact fluency

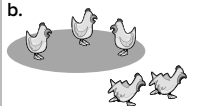
Subtraction

- Students learn about subtraction through a variety of situations that illustrate the idea of **take away**. Students participate in active stories involving ideas such as flying away, walking away, jumping away, and so on.
- In Grade 1, students will learn about other subtraction situations (comparison and part-part-whole), but take away is generally the easiest to learn, which is why it is introduced first.
- A deep understanding of subtraction is built through acting out subtraction stories, drawing pictures to represent subtraction, and writing equations to match subtraction stories and pictures.

Subtraction: Representing situations (take from)

Complete each sentence to match the picture. 8.3

a.  take away is


b.  take away is


In this lesson, students write number symbols to describe take-away subtraction stories.

- Take-away stories suggest movement (e.g. birds fly away, bugs crawl away) so this type of subtraction is called active. When students begin to work with pictures instead of objects, they learn to cross out or cover the amount taken away.

Subtraction: Representing situations (take apart)

Cross out the number shown. Then complete the sentence. 8.1

a.  cross out is

b.  cross out is

In this lesson, students cross out the quantity that is taken away.

- Students use mathematical language when talking about everyday events. To reinforce subtraction, you might say, “There were four toys on the floor. We put three away and now there is one left.”

Ideas for Home

- Have your child count out a small set (3–10) of objects. Ask them to close their eyes while you place a piece of paper or fabric over some of the objects. When they open their eyes, ask them to figure out the number of objects that are covered. Tell your child the starting total, if needed.

Glossary

- **Subtraction** involves taking one number away from another. Subtraction may be used to find an unknown part or to find the difference between two numbers. This is recorded in a subtraction equation that uses words or symbols. Subtraction is shown by the $-$ symbol.

Helpful videos

View these short one-minute videos to see these ideas in action.


www.bit.ly/OI_32

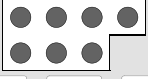
- Students learn a new way to show subtraction by covering the amount that is taken away from a total. The use of the language cover, or cover up, can be used in all subtraction situations, so it is helpful to learn now.


Subtraction: Writing equations (take apart)

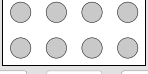
Write the total. Cover 1 or 2 dots. Then write the number of dots that are left.

8.2

a.  $5 - 2 = \square$

b.  $\square - 1 = \square$

c.  $\square - 1 = \square$

d.  $\square - 2 = \square$

In this lesson, students write subtraction sentences using the language cover.

Ideas for Home

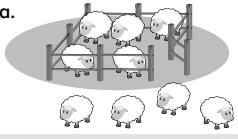
- Place some pieces of fruit (3–10) on a plate. Ask your child to count the number of pieces. Explain that you are going to eat (remove) some of the pieces. Remove the fruit as they watch. Ask your child to tell you a subtraction equation that matches the number of pieces of fruit that have been eaten.

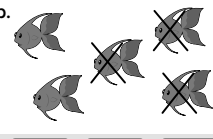
- Students relate and connect subtraction concepts to real-life situations. Students are introduced to the subtraction symbol (-).

Subtraction: Relating concepts

Write an equation to match each picture.

8.5

a.  $9 - 4 = \square$

b.  $\square - \square = \square$

In this lesson, students act out stories to model subtraction.

- Students develop fact fluency without using pictures.

Subtraction: Developing fact fluency

Write the answers on the race track.

8.6

Start $4 - 1 = \square$ $3 - 2 = \square$ $2 - 1 = \square$