

Unit 7

Family Letter

Reveal
MATH[®]

Dear Family,

In this unit, Understand Subtraction, we will be learning how to solve addition and subtraction word problems using counters or pictures as representations.

STEM Career Kid for this Unit

Hi, I'm Jordan.

I want to be an animal trainer. Animal trainers use math when keeping track of how many treats they have.



What math terms will your child use?

Term	Student Understanding
add	to put numbers together
difference	the answer to a subtraction problem
equation	a mathematical sentence indicating that two quantities are equal, or the same
minus	used to indicate subtraction
subtract	to take away from or to take apart; the inverse of addition



What can your child do at home?

Turn everyday events into word problems that your child can represent and solve using drawings or small objects. For example, if your child has 7 grapes and eats 4 of them, how many grapes are left?

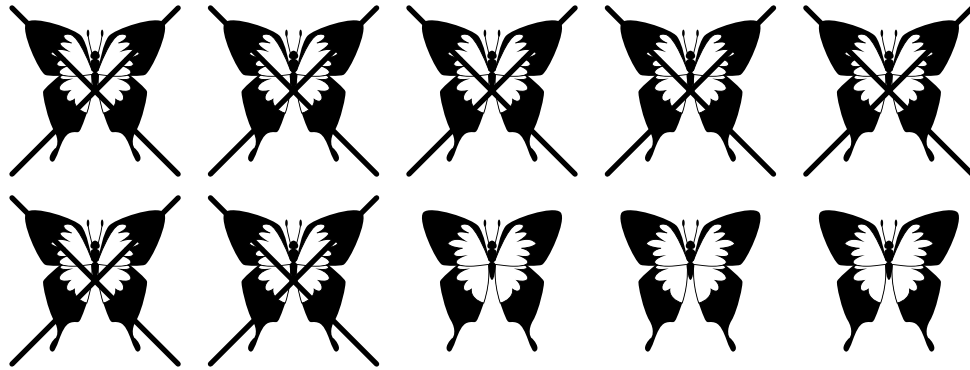
What Will Students Learn in this Unit?

Solving Take From Problems

Your child will learn to represent taking one part from another part to find the difference. Your child is encouraged to use counters or drawings to represent each problem. Students then write an equation to match their representations.

Example:

There are 10 butterflies. 7 butterflies fly away. Show how many are left.



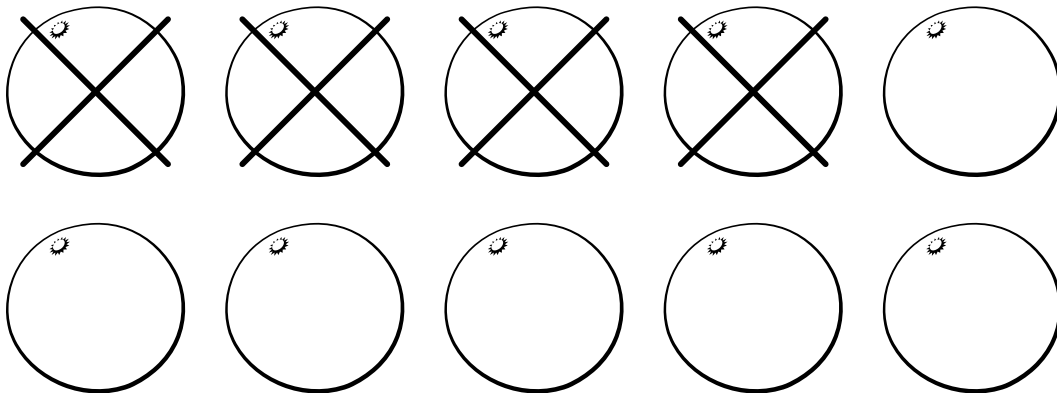
$$10 - 7 = 3$$

Using Representations to Solve Word Problems

Your child will also learn to represent addition and subtraction word problems with objects and drawings to find the answer.

Example:

There are 10 oranges in a basket. 4 oranges are taken out. How many are left?



$$10 - 4 = 6$$

Some students may find it easier to use counters or more simple pictures to represent a word problem. Encourage your child to verbalize how they approach solving subtraction word problems.