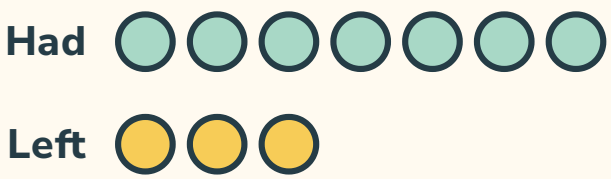
MATHS FIELD GUIDE · GRADE 1

Take away and find the difference

OPENING PROBLEM

How many left the first group?



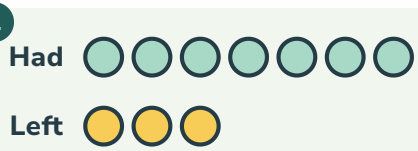
02 What does the difference count?
03 Rules and worked cases
04 Tickets at the fair
05 Compare the models
06 One whole, several splits
07 Check your reasoning

ILLUSTRATED PROBLEM SHEET

What does the difference count?

Taking away, filling a gap and matching pairs can describe the same difference.

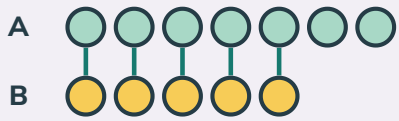
1



How many left the first group?

Four. Three remaining and four taken make seven.

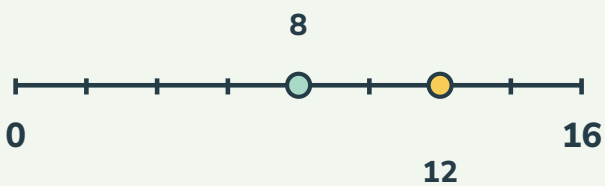
2



How many more counters does A have?

Five pairs use five from each group. Two are unmatched.

3



How much must you add to eight to reach twelve?

Two steps to ten, then two to twelve. The gap is four.

4



Fourteen minus six crosses a ten. How?

Take four to reach ten, then take two more. Eight remain.

15 − 8
remove five, then three: 7.

8 + □ = 15
count on seven to check.

CHAPTER PROBLEM

One group has six. Another has four. How many more does six have?

Two. Match four pairs; two remain unmatched.

MATHS REFERENCE · GRADE 1

Take away and find the difference

Subtraction can find how many are left when some go away.

It can also find how many more one group has than another. The – sign means subtract.

Cases to recognise

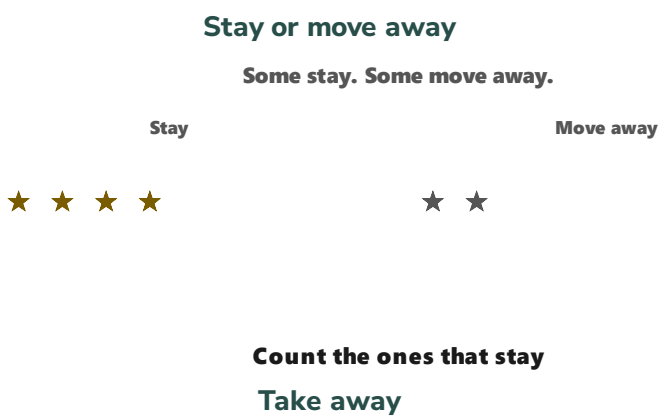
Situation	What to do and why
Eight pegs, remove two	Take two away. Count six remaining.
Seven buttons, four hidden	Three show because four and three remake seven.

Read the model

Tell a take-away story

Start with six counters. Two move away.

Four stay. Six take away two leaves four.



Write the story

We write 6 – 2 = 4.

Six is the starting amount. Two go away. Four remain.

subtract Take away or find a difference.
remain Stay after some go away.
difference How much two amounts differ.



Which row has more?

Every counter finds one partner. The rows are equal.

WORKED INVESTIGATION

Tickets at the fair

An envelope holds nine tickets. Give three to a friend. Slide those three aside before counting the six that stay in the envelope.

Look at this part	What it tells you
Start	9 tickets
Give away	3 tickets
Still yours	6 tickets

Work it through

Now compare two friends with nine and six tickets. Pair the tickets. Three have no partner. This finds a difference even when nobody gives anything away.

Catch the mistake

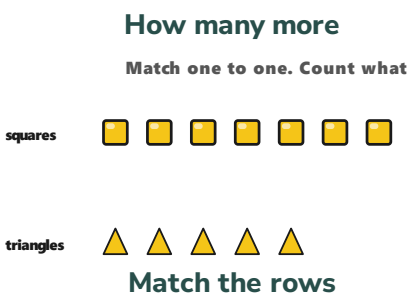
If you take three away and count the pile of three, you have counted what left. Count the pile still in the envelope to answer how many remain.

Compare the cases

Find a difference

There are seven squares and five triangles.

Match one with one. Two squares are left unmatched, so there are two more squares.



Two stories, one operation

Seven take away five leaves two.

Seven has two more than five. Both stories can use 7 − 5 = 2.

Change one condition

Put the three tickets back. Six and three make nine. Rebuilding the starting group checks the subtraction.



How many extra are in A?

Match four pairs. Two in A are left.

TAKE AWAY AND FIND THE DIFFERENCE

Compare the models

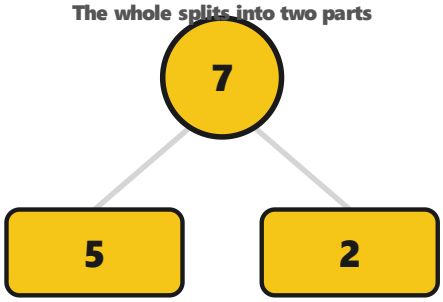
Link back to addition

Five and two make seven. Taking two from seven leaves five.

The parts help us explain why adding and taking away undo each other.

Number bond

The whole splits into two parts



7 = 5 + 2

Take all, or take none

Take all four counters away: zero remain.

Take zero counters away: all four remain.

Check the starting amount

You cannot take eight whole counters from a group of five.

For these stories, choose an amount that is actually there.

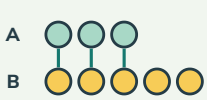
Explain your reasoning

Eight counters are here. Three go away. How many remain?

Five. Eight can be split into three and five.

Two more worked cases

Situation	Reasoning
Six counters, remove none	All six remain. Subtracting zero keeps the amount.
Five seats and three children	Match seats to children. Two seats are empty even though nobody took a seat away.



How could you make A equal B?

Add two to A, or take two from B.

ILLUSTRATED PROBLEM SHEET

One whole, several splits

One group can be split in different ways. Rejoining all the parts restores the whole.

1

A ○○○○○

B ○

What is the whole?

Start at five and count one more. Six.

2

A ○○○○

B ○○

What changed from five and one?

One moved to the second row. There are still six.

3

A ○○○

B ○○○

Can both parts match?

Yes. Three and three make six.

4

A ○○○○○○

B

Does an empty part change the total?

Six and zero still make six.

Seven split as 5 and 2
rejoin to check.

Seven split as 4 and 3
same whole, different parts.

CHAPTER PROBLEM

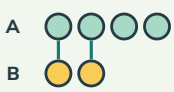
All three blocks go away. How many are left?

Zero. No blocks remain.

QUESTION BANK · FOLD OR COVER THE RIGHT COLUMN

Check your reasoning

Try the problem	Solution and reasoning
01 Can seven minus four and seven minus three have the same answer?	No. Taking one extra leaves one fewer.
02 Six counters are under two cups. Four are visible under one. How many are hidden under the other?	Two. Four and two remake six.
03 There were eight tickets. Now there are five. How many were given away? Show a check.	Three were given away. Five left and three given away make the original eight.
04 Ten stickers are on a sheet. Four are peeled off. Which addition checks the remainder?	Six plus four makes ten, so six remain.
05 There were some ducks. Two left and five stayed. How many at first?	Rebuild the group: five and two make seven.
06 Six counters are shown. How many are left after removing the crossed pair? 	Four remain because six minus two is four.



Move one counter from A to B. What happens?

The rows become three and three. Moving one closes a gap of two.

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