

1st Grade Math: Real-World Problems: Subtraction

In this lesson, we will learn how to solve **real-world subtraction problems**. Subtraction helps us find out how many are left after taking some away from a group. We'll use stories and examples from everyday life to practice our subtraction skills!

Key Concepts

1. Understanding Subtraction:

- Subtraction means taking away. When we subtract, we find out how many are left.
- The subtraction sentence is usually written as $a - b = c$, where:
 - a is the total number of items.
 - b is the number of items taken away.
 - c is the number of items left.

2. Real-World Situations:

- We can use subtraction to solve problems involving toys, food, animals, and more.
- By thinking of a story or situation, we can relate subtraction to our daily lives.

Examples of Real-World Subtraction Problems

Example 1: The Candy Jar

- **Problem:** Sarah has 12 candies in her jar. She eats 5 candies. How many candies does she have left?
- **Story:** "Sarah has 12 candies in her jar. She eats 5 candies. How many candies does she have now?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$12 - 5 = ?$$

- **Calculation:**

$$12 - 5 = 7$$

- **Answer:** Sarah has 7 candies left.

Example 2: The Toy Box

- **Problem:** Jake has **15 toy cars**. He gives **6 toy cars** to his friend. How many toy cars does he have now?
- **Story:** "Jake has 15 toy cars. He gives away 6 toy cars. How many toy cars does he have left?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$15 - 6 = ?$$

- **Calculation:**

$$15 - 6 = 9$$

- **Answer:** Jake has **9 toy cars** left.

Example 3: The Birdhouse

- **Problem:** There are **10 birds** in a birdhouse. **4 birds** fly away. How many birds are still in the birdhouse?
- **Story:** "There are 10 birds in a birdhouse. 4 birds fly away. How many birds are left?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$10 - 4 = ?$$

- **Calculation:**

$$10 - 4 = 6$$

- **Answer:** There are **6 birds** left in the birdhouse.

Practice Problems

Now it's your turn! Try solving these real-world subtraction problems.

1. **Problem:** There are **8 apples** in a basket. **3 apples** are taken out. How many apples are left?

- **Story:** "There are 8 apples in a basket. 3 apples are taken out. How many apples are left?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$8 - 3 = ?$$

2. **Problem:** A teacher has **20 pencils**. She gives **7 pencils** to her students. How many pencils does she have now?

- **Story:** "A teacher has 20 pencils. She gives away 7 pencils. How many pencils does she have left?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$20 - 7 = ?$$

3. **Problem:** There are **14 balloons** at a party. **5 balloons** pop. How many balloons are still inflated?

- **Story:** "There are 14 balloons at a party. 5 balloons pop. How many balloons are still inflated?"
- **Subtraction Sentence:**

$$14 - 5 = ?$$

Summary

- Subtraction helps us find out how many are left after taking some away.
- We can relate subtraction to real-life situations using stories.
- Practicing with real-world problems helps us understand subtraction better.

Conclusion

Subtraction is an important math skill we use every day! Keep practicing real-world subtraction problems to become a subtraction superstar!