

## 2nd Grade Math: Meaning of Difference

### What Is a Difference?

In math, the **difference** is the result you get when you subtract one number from another.

- **Subtraction** is the process of taking one number away from another.
- **Difference** = the result of subtraction.

### How Do We Find the Difference?

To find the difference between two numbers, follow these steps:

1. **Identify the Numbers:** Start with the bigger number (minuend) and the smaller number (subtrahend).
2. **Subtract:** Take the smaller number away from the bigger number.

### Example of Finding the Difference

**Problem:** What is the difference between 9 and 4?

**Solution:**

- **Subtract:**  $9 - 4 = 5$
- **Answer:** The difference is **5**.

### Real-World Example of a Difference

Imagine you have 8 apples, and you give 3 to a friend. How many apples do you have left?

- **Subtract:**  $8 - 3 = 5$
- The **difference** is 5 apples.

### Practice Problem

**Problem:** What is the difference between 15 and 7?

**Solution:**

- **Subtract:**  $15 - 7 = 8$
- **Answer:** The difference is **8**.

### Why Is the Difference Important?

Understanding the concept of a difference is important because:

- It helps solve everyday problems, like figuring out how much change you get after buying something.
- It's useful in comparing numbers and quantities, like determining how much more or less you have.

## **Conclusion**

The **difference** is the result you get when you subtract one number from another. Practicing subtraction will help students better understand how to find the difference in real-world situations, like calculating how much time has passed or how many items are left. Keep practicing subtraction to become confident with finding differences!