

At-Home Activities

→ The best way for your child to learn about subtraction is by telling subtraction stories. Use real-life situations. (ex. Say, "There are 9 spoons in the drawer. I take out 4 spoons for supper. How many spoons are left in the drawer? $9 - 4 = 5$ ")

→ Show 8 paper clips. Have your child turn away while you cover some of them with your hand. Ask your child to tell you how many are missing. Repeat, taking turns.

→ Have your child take a number of cans from the cupboard. Use a cloth to hide some of them. Have your child explain how addition can be used to find out how many are covered.

→ Share subtraction story problems about things in your neighbourhood. For example, "There are 15 houses on our street. 9 of them have a garage. How many do not have a garage?"

→ Have your child build a set of 5 to 9 pennies and then add 1, 2, or 3 pennies to that number. Have your child tell the addition sentence ($14 + 1 = 15$, $14 + 2 = 16$, and $14 + 3 = 17$). Then take the same number of pennies away. Have your child tell the subtraction sentence ($14 - 1 = 13$, $14 - 2 = 12$, and $14 - 3 = 11$).

Interactive Online Math Games:

→ www.fun4thebrain.com: This is a fabulous website that children love to practice their subtraction facts. Just click on "Subtraction". "Cone Crazy", "Snowy Fun" and "Sketch's World" are very popular games!

→ <http://www.abcya.com>: This is another great educational website! Scroll down to look for math games under "Numbers". "Balloon Pop Subtraction" is a great activity to practice basic subtraction facts!