Subtraction Fact Strategy Games

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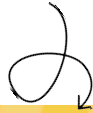
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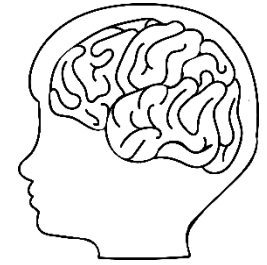
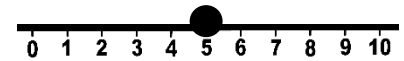✓ **Save 33% on all products from The Measured Mom Shop.**

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-0 Subtraction Facts

DIRECTIONS: Take turns naming a difference and covering the fact. Whoever gets four in a row first, wins!

10 – 0	8 – 0	5 – 0	1 – 0	4 – 0	6 – 0	8 – 0
7 – 0	6 – 0	4 – 0	6 – 0	3 – 0	7 – 0	5 – 0
7 – 0	9 – 0	4 – 0	3 – 0	5 – 0	7 – 0	6 – 0
8 – 0	2 – 0	1 – 0	2 – 0	7 – 0	3 – 0	5 – 0
5 – 0	6 – 0	8 – 0	3 – 0	1 – 0	8 – 0	2 – 0
7 – 0	4 – 0	6 – 0	8 – 0	7 – 0	7 – 0	4 – 0

Think!

When you take away zero, you have taken away nothing. You have the same number you started with!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

or
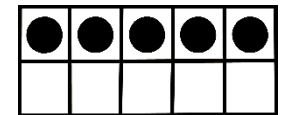
5 - 0 = 5

Minus Itself Subtraction Facts

10 – 10	8 – 8	7 – 7	8 – 8	6 – 6	5 – 5	3 – 3
6 – 6	9 – 9	5 – 5	3 – 3	2 – 2	7 – 7	9 – 9
8 – 8	7 – 7	4 – 4	1 – 1	6 – 6	6 – 6	8 – 8
5 – 5	2 – 2	6 – 6	5 – 5	3 – 3	4 – 4	7 – 7
7 – 7	9 – 9	7 – 7	3 – 3	2 – 2	1 – 1	6 – 6
1 – 1	4 – 4	5 – 5	9 – 9	4 – 4	5 – 5	8 – 8

Think!

When you take away the number that you started with, you have nothing left!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

or

6-6=0

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-0 & = 0 Subtraction Facts

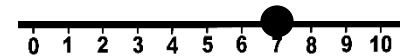|						
9 – 9	7 – 7	5 – 5	3 – 3	4 – 0	6 – 6	9 – 0
2 – 0	8 – 8	2 – 2	1 – 1	7 – 7	1 – 0	8 – 0
4 – 4	6 – 0	6 – 6	5 – 5	8 – 0	7 – 7	3 – 0
2 – 2	8 – 0	7 – 0	4 – 4	3 – 3	6 – 0	8 – 0
9 – 0	6 – 0	2 – 0	5 – 5	9 – 9	4 – 0	5 – 0
5 – 0	4 – 0	1 – 0	3 – 3	1 – 1	3 – 0	8 – 8

Think!

When you take away the number that you started with, you have nothing left!
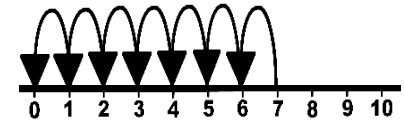
7-7=0
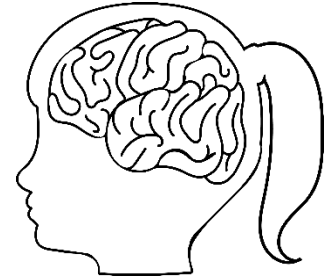
When you take away zero, you have taken away nothing. You have the same number you started with!

7-0=7

-1, -2 Subtraction Facts

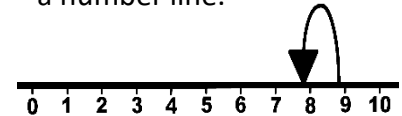|						
10 − 2	7 − 2	4 − 2	9 − 1	8 − 1	10 − 1	3 − 2
6 − 1	2 − 2	7 − 1	5 − 2	8 − 2	4 − 1	5 − 1
10 − 1	5 − 2	5 − 1	10 − 1	4 − 1	4 − 2	9 − 1
3 − 2	8 − 2	3 − 1	2 − 2	2 − 1	3 − 1	6 − 2
8 − 1	6 − 2	4 − 1	4 − 1	7 − 1	9 − 2	9 − 1
5 − 1	9 − 2	6 − 1	10 − 1	5 − 1	7 − 2	10 − 2

Think!

When you take away 1 or 2, you can count backward.

$6-2 = ?$

You can count backward two times. **6.** 5, 4.

$6-2 = 4$

You can also think about taking backward jumps on a number line.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

$9-1=8$

Still stuck? Use linking cubes to make a stack of the bigger number. Then break off the cubes one by one to get your answer.
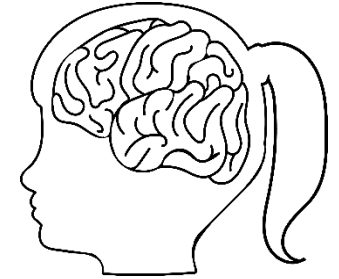
$8-2=6$

-3, -4, -5 Subtraction Facts

12 – 3	12 – 4	13 – 4	14 – 5	6 – 3	8 – 4	13 – 5
8 – 4	9 – 5	13 – 5	12 – 5	7 – 5	9 – 4	12 – 4
11 – 3	14 – 5	9 – 4	13 – 4	8 – 3	7 – 4	6 – 5
7 – 4	4 – 3	12 – 5	5 – 4	12 – 3	10 – 3	7 – 3
13 – 4	9 – 5	8 – 5	9 – 3	14 – 5	13 – 5	8 – 5
5 – 3	8 – 3	7 – 3	7 – 5	12 – 5	11 – 3	12 – 3

Think!

When you take away 3, 4 or 5, you can count backward.

8-3 = ?

You can count backward three times. **8.** 7, 6, 5.

8-3 = 5

Another strategy is to put the second number in your head and count up to the first number.

9-5 = ?
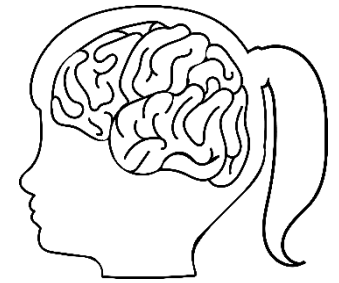
Put five in your head. Then count up using your fingers.

5. 6, 7, 8, 9.

9-5 = 4

Using Doubles Facts

DIRECTIONS: Take turns naming a difference and covering the fact. Whoever gets four in a row first, wins!

18 – 9	14 – 7	12 – 6	16 – 8	12 – 6	10 – 5	14 – 7
6 – 3	8 – 4	10 – 5	14 – 7	6 – 3	6 – 3	16 – 8
2 – 1	4 – 2	10 – 5	14 – 7	18 – 9	14 – 7	8 – 4
16 – 8	16 – 8	8 – 4	4 – 2	12 – 6	2 – 1	4 – 2
10 – 5	12 – 6	4 – 2	10 – 5	6 – 3	8 – 4	12 – 6
6 – 3	18 – 9	12 – 6	16 – 8	16 – 8	10 – 5	18 – 9

Think!

Remember your doubles addition facts. When one number is added to the same number, you have a doubles fact.

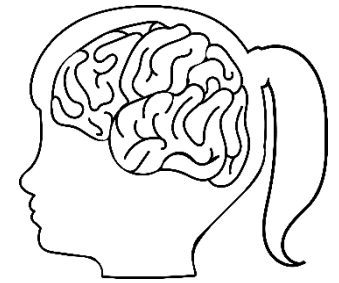If you know…

8 + 8 = 16

Then this subtraction fact is easy.

16 – 8 = ?

The answer is the other 8!

16 – 8 = 8

Build on Doubles Subtraction Facts

17 – 9	16 – 9	15 – 8	12 – 7	8 – 5	16 – 7	9 – 4
14 – 8	13 – 6	16 – 7	10 – 6	9 – 5	14 – 8	16 – 9
16 – 7	16 – 9	9 – 4	17 – 9	14 – 8	15 – 8	9 – 4
10 – 6	13 – 6	9 – 5	16 – 7	13 – 6	16 – 9	12 – 7
16 – 7	16 – 9	14 – 8	12 – 7	17 – 9	12 – 7	15 – 8
17 – 9	13 – 6	8 – 5	9 – 5	13 – 6	14 – 8	17 – 9

Think!

$13 - 6 = ?$

You know that 12-6 = 6. 13 is one more than 12. So the answer is one more than 6.

$12 - 6 = 6$

$13 - 6 = 6 + 1$

$13 - 6 = 7$

Let's try another one.

$12 - 7 = ?$

You know that $12 - 6 = 6$. Since you're taking away 7, which is one more than 6, you know that the answer has to be one LESS.
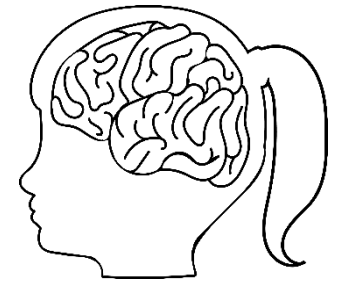
$12 - 6 = 6$

$12 - 7 = 6 - 1$

$12 - 7 = 5$

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Subtracting from 10

10 – 1	10 – 9	10 – 7	10 – 3	10 – 2	10 – 4	10 – 8
10 – 8	10 – 2	10 – 5	10 – 8	10 – 8	10 – 5	10 – 3
10 – 6	10 – 1	10 – 2	10 – 9	10 – 3	10 – 1	10 – 4
10 – 4	10 – 8	10 – 7	10 – 3	10 – 7	10 – 6	10 – 5
10 – 6	10 – 8	10 – 7	10 – 1	10 – 9	10 – 2	10 – 7
10 – 8	10 – 6	10 – 4	10 – 2	10 – 3	10 – 9	10 – 1

Think!

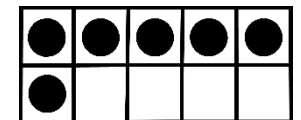$10 - 4 = ?$

Think about a ten frame.
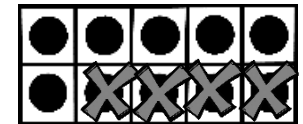
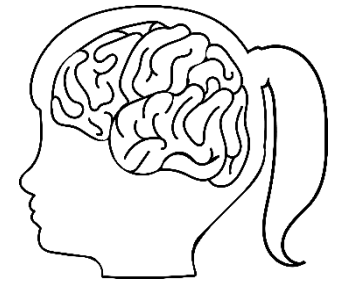If you take away four dots, how many will be left?

$10 - 4 = 6$

You can also remember an addition fact.

$10 - 4 = ?$

You know that 4+6 = 10, so 10-4 = 6.

Use the -10 Facts That You Know

11 – 9	11 – 8	9 – 6	11 – 7	9 – 7	11 – 3	9 – 8
9 – 3	9 – 2	11 – 9	9 – 6	9 – 5	11 – 8	11 – 4
9 – 4	11 – 7	11 – 8	11 – 2	11 – 6	9 – 5	9 – 4
11 – 5	11 – 6	9 – 2	11 – 9	9 – 6	11 – 5	9 – 2
9 – 5	9 – 3	11 – 1	11 – 7	9 – 7	11 – 4	9 – 3
9 – 4	9 – 8	9 – 6	11 – 2	11 – 3	11 – 6	11 – 5

Think!

Do you know your -10 facts? Then you can use those to solve some other facts.

$$11 - 6 = ?$$

Which -10 fact is very close?

$$10 - 6 = 4$$

Since 11 is one more than 10, you know that the answer has to be one more than 10-6.
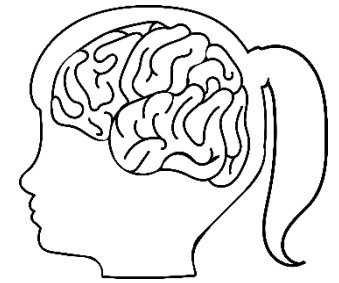
$$10 - 6 = \mathbf{4}$$
$$11 - 6 = 4 + 1$$
$$11 - 6 = 5$$

Zero Finger Subtraction Strategy

11 – 7	14 – 5	12 – 9	11 – 7	17 – 9	11 – 9	11 – 6
12 – 8	17 – 8	14 – 6	16 – 9	12 – 6	15 – 6	14 – 8
11 – 3	12 – 7	15 – 9	13 – 6	12 – 3	16 – 7	18 – 9
11 – 5	13 – 8	15 – 6	13 – 4	12 – 5	14 – 8	13 – 5
15 – 8	14 – 9	13 – 7	15 – 9	15 – 7	11 – 4	11 – 8
13 – 9	16 – 8	14 – 8	14 – 7	16 – 9	12 – 4	14 – 5

Think!

If you know how to subtract from ten, you can use the zero finger strategy for some of the harder facts.

$$14 - 6 = ?$$

Cover the second digit of the first number. Pretend your finger is a zero.

$$1\,\_\, - 6 = ?$$

$$10 - 6 = \mathbf{4}$$

Now take your finger off the second digit. Add that number to your answer.
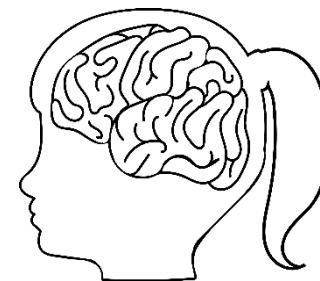
$$14 - 6 = ?$$

$$\mathbf{4} + 4 = 8, \text{ so}$$
$$14 - 6 = 8$$

Magic 9 Facts

DIRECTIONS: Take turns naming a sum and covering the fact. Whoever gets four in a row first, wins!

18 – 9	16 – 9	15 – 9	14 – 9	18 – 9	16 – 9	13 – 9
17 – 9	12 – 9	13 – 9	11 – 9	12 – 9	15 – 9	11 – 9
15 – 9	11 – 9	17 – 9	14 – 9	18 – 9	13 – 9	15 – 9
14 – 9	18 – 9	13 – 9	13 – 9	17 – 9	12 – 9	16 – 9
17 – 9	15 – 9	13 – 9	12 – 9	15 – 9	16 – 9	14 – 9
16 – 9	17 – 9	14 – 9	11 – 9	17 – 9	14 – 9	18 – 9

Think!

You can use special tricks that only work when you do -9.

Did you know that the number in the answer is one more than the digit in the ones place?

$$13 - 9 = ?$$

Look at the number 13. What number is one more than the digit in the ones place? 3 is in the ones place. 4 is one bigger. So…

$$13 - 9 = 4$$

Here's another great trick! Add the two digits in the first number to get the answer.

$$15 - 9 = ?$$
$$1 + 5 = 6$$
$$15 - 9 = 6$$

Subtracting 10

DIRECTIONS: Take turns naming a sum and covering the fact. Whoever gets four in a row first, wins!

19 – 10	17 – 10	16 – 10	18 – 10	15 – 10	14 – 10	18 – 10
13 – 10	14 – 10	12 – 10	11 – 10	18 – 10	13 – 10	15 – 10
11 – 10	17 – 10	11 – 10	17 – 10	19 – 10	16 – 10	14 – 10
12 – 10	14 – 10	15 – 10	13 – 10	12 – 10	18 – 10	15 – 10
18 – 10	16 – 10	12 – 10	17 – 10	13 – 10	19 – 10	16 – 10
15 – 10	19 – 10	13 – 10	16 – 10	14 – 10	17 – 10	19 – 10
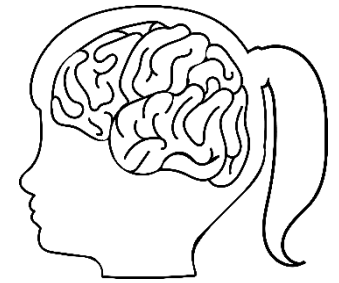
Think!

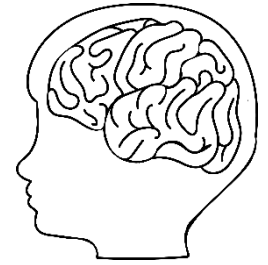Think about a hundreds chart. If you subtract 10, you go up one number on the chart.

15 – 10 = ?

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

15 – 10 = 5

Subtract 9 by subtracting 10

18 – 9	16 – 9	15 – 9	13 – 9	12 – 9	14 – 9	18 – 9
10 – 9	17 – 9	14 – 9	16 – 9	10 – 9	12 – 9	10 – 9
13 – 9	12 – 9	11 – 9	11 – 9	15 – 9	14 – 9	12 – 9
16 – 9	15 – 9	12 – 9	18 – 9	17 – 9	15 – 9	16 – 9
13 – 9	16 – 9	17 – 9	12 – 9	11 – 9	14 – 9	17 – 9
17 – 9	14 – 9	13 – 9	15 – 9	18 – 9	13 – 9	18 – 9

Think!

Can you take subtract 10? Then subtracting 9 is easy!

$$18 - 9 = ?$$

Think about it. 18-10 = 8. Since 10 is one more than 9, you'll need to add one to that answer.

$$18 - 9 = ?$$
$$18 - 10 = 8$$
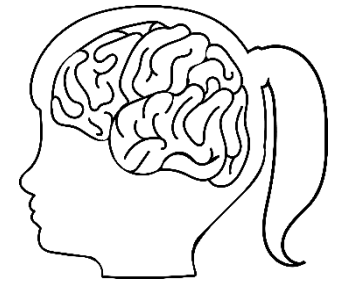$$8 + 1 = 9$$
$$18 - 9 = 9$$

Subtract to 10, then Subtract Again

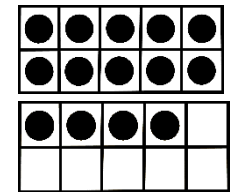|						
16 – 8	18 – 9	17 – 9	16 – 9	13 – 8	13 – 9	17 – 8
15 – 9	15 – 6	17 – 8	15 – 8	15 – 7	15 – 6	16 – 7
14 – 9	16 – 9	19 – 8	12 – 9	15 – 9	17 – 9	18 – 9
16 – 9	13 – 8	13 – 9	15 – 9	14 – 8	15 – 6	17 – 8
16 – 7	17 – 9	12 – 4	15 – 7	16 – 8	15 – 8	18 – 9
14 – 9	15 – 7	13 – 7	15 – 8	14 – 9	16 – 7	14 – 8

Think!

Are you ready for an advanced strategy?

$$14 - 6 = ?$$

Look at the first number. What do you need to subtract to get to 10?

$$14 - 4 = 10$$

Now, how many do you need to subtract from 10 to get the final answer? 6 is 2 more than 4, so you need to subtract 2 from 10.

$$14 - 6 = ?$$
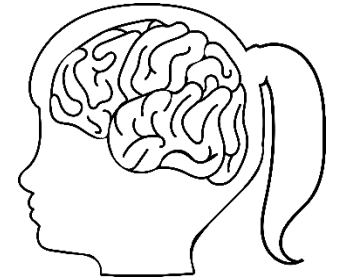$$14 - 4 = 10$$
$$6 - 4 = 2$$
$$10 - 2 = 8$$
$$14 - 6 = 8$$

Use Addition Facts When You Subtract

18 − 9	13 − 7	12 − 8	15 − 6	14 − 6	15 − 7	12 − 9
13 − 8	14 − 7	14 − 7	11 − 8	13 − 9	12 − 7	16 − 8
12 − 7	17 − 9	13 − 6	10 − 7	10 − 8	15 − 8	11 − 7
11 − 7	14 − 8	15 − 7	9 − 7	14 − 9	9 − 8	12 − 6
16 − 8	10 − 7	16 − 9	8 − 7	15 − 6	16 − 7	11 − 9
10 − 9	15 − 8	9 − 7	15 − 9	13 − 7	15 − 9	14 − 8

Think!

Knowing your addition facts really helps with subtraction!

$$9 - 6 = ?$$

You know that 6+3 = 9, so...

$$9 - 6 = 3$$

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Mixed Practice Subtraction #1

18 − 9	12 − 6	13 − 5	11 − 7	14 − 9	12 − 5	12 − 4	7 − 4	6 − 4
14 − 8	13 − 7	13 − 8	13 − 4	10 − 6	9 − 8	11 − 5	11 − 4	15 − 6
12 − 7	15 − 8	11 − 6	15 − 9	10 − 8	9 − 6	10 − 5	9 − 4	10 − 4
14 − 7	7 − 5	2 − 1	3 − 2	10 − 7	13 − 9	5 − 4	8 − 7	8 − 6
14 − 5	10 − 9	16 − 9	8 − 4	11 − 8	8 − 5	12 − 9	16 − 7	9 − 5
16 − 8	7 − 6	13 − 6	12 − 8	4 − 4	11 − 9	9 − 7	14 − 6	15 − 7

Mixed Practice Subtraction #2

10 – 1	18 – 9	11 – 7	17 – 9	11 – 5	10 – 7	16 – 9	15 – 9	2 – 1
13 – 7	12 – 7	7 – 4	11 – 9	12 – 9	13 – 9	12 – 5	16 – 8	14 – 9
14 – 6	6 – 4	11 – 6	10 – 5	10 – 9	4 – 1	8 – 8	9 – 9	15 – 8
7 – 2	12 – 4	11 – 8	9 – 4	10 – 10	3 – 1	9 – 4	11 – 4	13 – 5
14 – 7	12 – 6	11 – 4	10 – 6	13 – 4	12 – 8	16 – 7	13 – 8	14 – 8
15 – 6	9 – 2	13 – 6	9 – 6	10 – 4	6 – 1	12 – 4	15 – 7	14 – 5

Mixed Practice Subtraction #3

18 – 9	9 – 5	14 – 5	16 – 8	13 – 5	8 – 5	1 – 1	3 – 0	2 – 1
13 – 6	11 – 6	3 – 3	4 – 4	3 – 2	5 – 4	16 – 7	7 – 5	2 – 2
13 – 8	12 – 6	9 – 4	7 – 4	8 – 4	10 – 9	6 – 4	15 – 7	6 – 5
6 – 6	17 – 9	12 – 5	13 – 9	10 – 4	3 – 1	13 – 4	5 – 5	13 – 7
10 – 6	16 – 8	11 – 5	12 – 8	12 – 9	17 – 8	12 – 4	11 – 4	10 – 7
15 – 8	14 – 8	16 – 9	10 – 5	14 – 6	11 – 8	8 – 7	15 – 6	9 – 7