



# Subtraction – Fingers II

**Math Concepts:** Add / Subtract numbers 1 - 9

**Materials:** None

**Players:** 1+

## – FINGER SUBTRACTION THE EASY WAY –

**Two methods:** Subtraction can be thought of as 'take away' or 'difference.' Both models are essential to a complete understanding of subtraction. Have your students practice both ways of thinking of subtraction using these finger subtraction methods.

We'll use 11 - 3 for our examples.

11		<b>Take Away (on the left):</b> Start with a closed fist and say '11.' Then, lifting one more finger each time, count '10, 9, 8.' When your student sees 3 fingers raised, the counting stops. You now have the result that taking 3 away from 11 leaves 8.			3
10		<b>Difference (on the right):</b> This uses 'counting on,' much as we did for Easy Way Finger Addition. What we are doing is finding out which number we need to add to 3 to get 11.			4
9					...
8		Have your student make a closed fist and say '3.' Then, lifting one more finger each time, count '4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.' When your student says '11,' there are 8 fingers raised – the difference between 3 and 11 is 8.			10
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