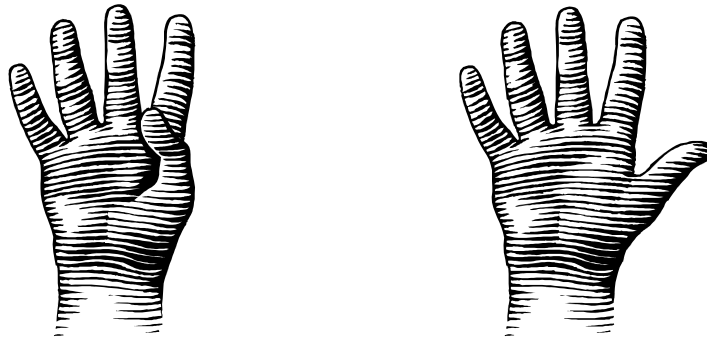


## Verbal Finger Math – Subtraction



### Instructions for this Activity:

Before beginning Verbal Finger Math, make sure the student knows how to hold up a certain amount of fingers on command; i.e. “hold up 3 fingers”; “hold up 8 fingers”, etc. If the student does not know how to do this, give him a visual cue by holding up your fingers when you say, “hold up 3 fingers”, etc.

Once the student has the skills to hold up a certain amount of fingers on command, begin with the first 25 short problems below. The first 25 problems below can be represented on one hand. Once the child masters this skill, you can move on to the next 25 problems that can be represented on two hands. If the student needs more time and experience with one hand, you can use problems 26-50, but change the numbers so that they can be done with one hand.

### Problems with the answer represented with one hand:

1. 5 pieces of pizza - 1 piece was eaten
2. 4 sharpened pencils – 2 broke
3. 3 purple crayons – 2 were used
4. 5 cars racing – 1 car wins, how many lost?
5. 3 kites flying – 1 kite fell, how many are still flying?
6. 2 drummers – 2 stop drumming, how many are still playing?
7. 4 tires on the car – 3 are flat, how many have air?
8. 3 girls playing dolls - 1 has to go home, how many girls are playing
9. 1 leaf in a tree – 1 falls off, how many are still on the tree?
10. 5 empty glasses – 2 are filled with lemonade, how many are still empty?
11. Mother bird has 3 eggs in her nest – 3 of them hatch, how many eggs are left?
12. 5 airplanes flying – 2 land, how many are still flying?
13. 4 waddling ducks – 1 goes swimming, how many are still waddling?
14. 2 sleeping bears – 1 wakes up, how many are still sleeping?
15. 3 warm mittens – 1 was lost, how many mittens now?
16. 3 cups of milk are poured – you drink 1 cup, how many cups are left?
17. 4 slices of carrot – you eat 3, how many slices are left?
18. 2 boys riding bikes – 2 stop riding, how many are still riding?
19. 3 squirrels in a tree – 2 run down, how many are in the tree?
20. 4 girls swinging – 1 stops, how many are still swinging?

21. 1 soaring eagles – 1 lands on a rock, how many are soaring?
22. 2 sandwiches – 1 has pickles, how many do not?
23. 4 pieces of pie – 3 were eaten, how many pieces of pie are left?
24. 3 brown and white sea shells – 2 are white, how many are not?
25. 5 boys in line for the slide – 1 goes down, how many are still in line?

Problems with the answer represented with two hands:

26. 10 Kittens had mittens, 1 Kitten lost his mittens. Now how many kittens with mittens?
27. 9 train cars and 2 unhitched, how many cars on the train now?
28. 6 sky rockets, 3 blasts off, how many left?
29. 10 hamsters, 4 ran away, how many hamsters?
30. Sea Land has 7 dolphins and 2 go back to sea, how many dolphins at Sea Land now?
31. Pirates have 5 parrots, 3 fly away, how many parrots?
32. Mom fried 8 eggs and ate 2, how many eggs are left?
33. 7 bananas, 3 were eaten, how many bananas are left?
34. A pizza has 8 slices, 3 are eaten, how many slices now?
35. 6 flowers, 4 are picked, how many flowers now?
36. 9 people sleeping, 3 wake up, how many are still sleeping?
37. 8 bottles of water, 2 are spilled, how many have water?
38. 1 snowman, and 1 snowman melts, how many are left?
39. 7 apples, 6 baked in a pie, how many left?
40. 5 seeds, 2 planted, how many seeds left?
41. 6 chairs at the table, 3 taken away, how many chairs?
42. 10 eggs, 6 broke, how many are left?
43. 9 pigs in mud, 1 gets out, how many in the mud?
44. 7 ice cream cones, 2 melt, how many left?
45. 9 tractors plowing, 3 leave, how many tractors are plowing?
46. 10 fish, 5 swim away, how many fish left?
47. 6 boots, 1 is lost, how many boots?
48. 7 pieces of chalk, 3 gets used, how many pieces of chalk?
49. 8 hammers, 3 are lost, how many hammers?
50. 10 strawberries and 6 are eaten, how many strawberries left?