Counting Up and Counting Back

Home Link 3-5

NAME DATE

Family Note

Today we learned about two subtraction strategies: counting up and counting back. We can use the counting-up strategy when the numbers in a subtraction problem are close together. For example, to solve 11 − 9 it is easier to start at 9 and count up to 11. This takes 2 counts (9 to 10 and 10 to 11), so the answer is 2. When the number being subtracted is small, the counting-back strategy is easier. For example, to solve 12 − 3 it is easier to start at 12 and count back 3 (12 to 11, 11 to 10, and 10 to 9). We end on 9, so the answer is 9.

Please return this Home Link to school tomorrow.

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Use the counting-up strategy to solve.

① 7 − 4 = _____ ② 9 − 7 = _____

③ 11 − 8 = _____ ④ 13 − 11 = _____

Use the counting-back strategy to solve.

⑤ 9 − 2 = _____ ⑥ 12 − 3 = _____

⑦ 14 − 2 = _____ ⑧ 15 − 4 = _____

Write "counting up" or "counting back" on the line.

⑨ To solve 13 − 9, _____ is faster.

⑩ To solve 13 − 2, _____ is faster.

Explain your answer. _____

_____

Practice

Write the turn-around fact for each addition fact.

⑪ 7 + 6 = 13 _____ ⑫ 4 + 8 = 12 _____