Subtraction Word Problems

Name _____

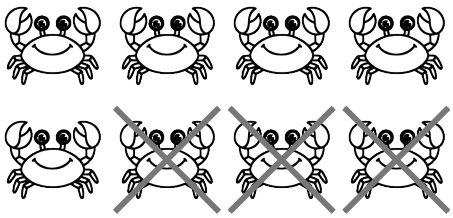
Grade 1, Set B · Subtracting within 20

Read each story. Write a subtraction equation in the boxes, then write your answer.

1 8 crabs are on the sand. 3 crabs crawl into the sea. How many crabs are on the sand now?

8 − 3 = ☐

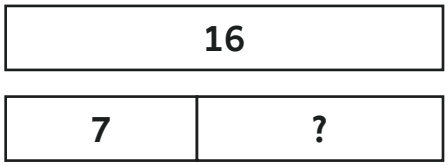
Answer: _____ crabs



2 Theo has 16 trading cards. He gives 7 to his brother. How many cards does Theo have left?

☐ − ☐ = ☐

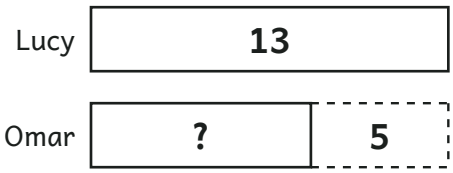
Answer: _____ cards



3 Lucy read 13 books this summer. Omar read 5 fewer books than Lucy. How many books did Omar read?

☐ − ☐ = ☐

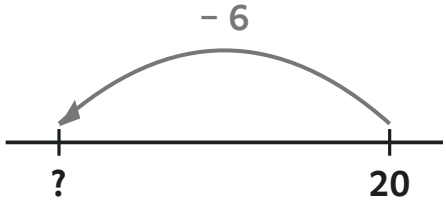
Answer: _____ books



4 A rope is 20 feet long. Dad cuts off 6 feet. How long is the rope now?

☐ − ☐ = ☐

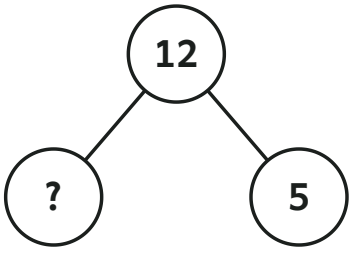
Answer: _____ feet



5 There were 12 birds on a wire. Some flew away. Now 5 birds are on the wire. How many birds flew away?

☐ − ☐ = ☐

Answer: _____ birds



Subtraction Word Problems (Answer Key)

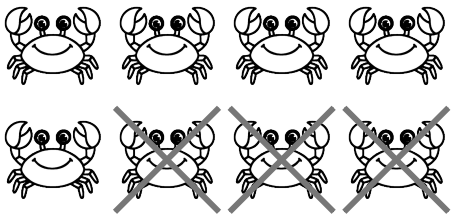
Grade 1, Set B · Subtracting within 20

Read each story. Write a subtraction equation in the boxes, then write your answer.

1 8 crabs are on the sand. 3 crabs crawl into the sea. How many crabs are on the sand now?

8 − 3 = 5

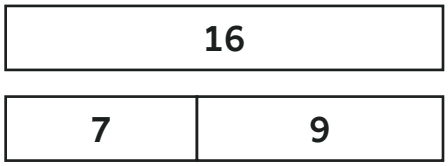
Answer: **5** crabs



2 Theo has 16 trading cards. He gives 7 to his brother. How many cards does Theo have left?

16 − 7 = 9

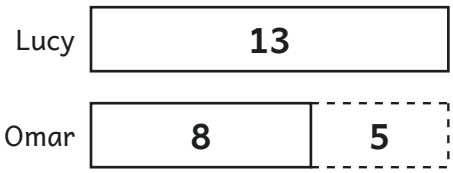
Answer: **9** cards



3 Lucy read 13 books this summer. Omar read 5 fewer books than Lucy. How many books did Omar read?

13 − 5 = 8

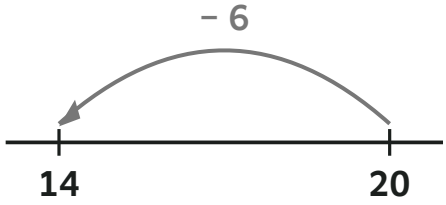
Answer: **8** books



4 A rope is 20 feet long. Dad cuts off 6 feet. How long is the rope now?

20 − 6 = 14

Answer: **14** feet



5 There were 12 birds on a wire. Some flew away. Now 5 birds are on the wire. How many birds flew away?

12 − 7 = 5

Answer: **7** birds

