



Spotlight 5: a learning check

Does not relate finding a difference and complementary addition to the operation of subtraction

Opportunity for: explaining and discussing

Kangaroo hops

Time 5–15 minutes

Resources

- Number cards to suit your children
(Resource sheets 1, 2, 3 and 4)
- Dice
- Number lines
- At least two children

Check: does the child use key vocabulary?

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| how many? | add |
| difference between | count on |
| take away | count up |
| subtract | count back |

Teaching activity

‘This game, **Kangaroo hops**, will help you with finding differences.’

Lay about ten number cards face down on the table.

Children can cooperate in pairs.

How to play

1. The children pick up two numbers and place them on a number line.
2. They work out the difference between the two numbers and that is the number they score.



- ? How many hops does the kangaroo need to make to get from thirteen to nineteen?
- ? Would it be the same number of hops to get from nineteen back to thirteen?
- ? How do you know?

3. Children keep their score. They could tally this in sets of five.

Variations

- ↑ ● Children or pairs can compete, but the pair with the largest score only wins if they can say what the difference is between their score and the other pair.
- ↑ ● Play with the cards facing up. One child throws a dice and they have to pick up two cards with that difference. Children could make up their own way of scoring for this game.

Learning outcomes

By the end of this set of activities, children should be able to:

- tackle related learning tasks with increased motivation and confidence;
- use and understand connected mathematical vocabulary;
- find a difference by counting on and counting back, understanding that the answer will be the same however they work it out;
- write four related number sentences for 'difference between';
- understand that addition undoes subtraction.