# Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to subtract by counting on.

When you **count on** to subtract, you start with the number being subtracted and then count on to the total. The number of times you count on to get to the total is the answer to the subtraction problem. This strategy allows your child to use addition to solve subtraction problems.

Example: What is $6 - 4$?

To find $6 - 4 = ?$, you can use $4 + ? = 6$.

Start at 4.   Count on to 6.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
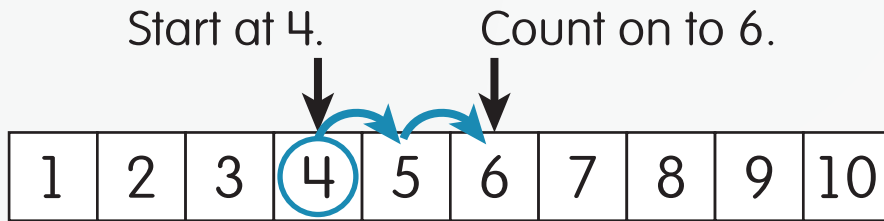
Look at the curved arrows.
You counted on 2 times.
So $6 - 4 = 2$.

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about counting on to subtract by doing the following activity together.

NEXT

Counting On to Subtract with Fingers Activity

Have your child solve several subtraction problems by counting on with his or her fingers.

For example, ask your child to find $7 - 5$. ← Start with 5 because that is the number being subtracted.

Your child should say "5" and then hold up one finger each time he or she counts on until reaching the number 7. The number of fingers your child is holding up is the answer to the subtraction problem.

7 ← Count on to 7. You counted on 2 times.
6
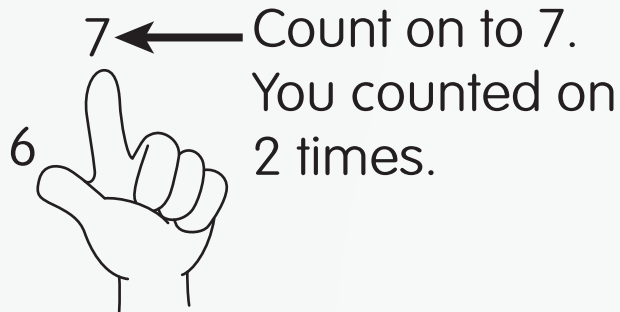
Ask your child to solve the following subtraction problems by counting on with his or her fingers.

$$8 - 6 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \qquad 9 - 8 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$7 - 4 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \qquad 6 - 3 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$9 - 7 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \qquad 8 - 5 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$