

Subtraction Strip Board — Building Subtraction

Fluency

Base Sheet

The child uses the Montessori subtraction strip board to practice subtraction facts, building toward automatic recall. The strip board visually shows the taking-away process and helps cement facts in memory.

What You Need:

- Montessori subtraction strip board
- Numbered strips
- Recording sheet
- Pencil
- Addition facts chart for reference

Steps:

1. Present the subtraction strip board: marked 1-18 with numbered strips.
2. 'The addition strip board helped us ADD. This one helps us SUBTRACT — take away!'
3. Demonstrate: 'Let us find $12 - 5$. Place the blue 12 strip starting at 1. It reaches to 12. Now lay the red 5 strip on TOP starting from 12 and going back.
4. Practice the inverse of friends of ten: $10 - 1 = 9$, $10 - 2 = 8$, $10 - 3 = 7$, etc. Where does it end? At 7! So $12 - 5 = 7$.'
5. Work through 10-12 subtraction facts.
6. 'Try to answer before checking on the board! $10 - 4 = ?$ Check!'
7. Record each fact.
8. Circle facts the child knows automatically.

Work Space:



