

# Subtraction Strip Board — Introduction

Base Sheet

Activity Sheet

The child is introduced to the Montessori subtraction strip board, using the blue and red number strips to visualize taking away. This material makes subtraction concrete and prepares for memorization of subtraction facts.

## What You Need:

- Subtraction strip board
- Blue number strips
- Red number strips
- Pencil
- Paper for recording
- Work mat

## Steps:

1. Present the subtraction strip board (numbered 1-18 across the top).
2. 'We have been adding. Now let's learn to SUBTRACT — to take away.'
3. Demonstrate:  $7 - 3$ . Place the blue strip for 7. Then place the red strip for 3 starting from the 7 and counting back.
4. 'We started at 7, took away 3, and landed on 4. So  $7 - 3 = 4$ !'
5. Practice together:  $8 - 2$ ,  $9 - 5$ ,  $6 - 4$ .
6. Child works independently on 5-6 problems, recording answers on paper.

## Work Space:



