

Mental subtraction strategies within 100

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

To subtract mentally within 100, jump back along the number line from the larger number until the smaller is removed, or count up the small gap when the numbers are close.

→ $47 - 5$: start at 47 and make five small back-jumps to land on 42

→ $52 - 47$: jump up from 47 to 52, a gap of 5, so the answer is 5

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

HURLING SCOREBOARD $53 - 48$

- 1 The numbers are close so count up the gap instead of jumping back 48.
- 2 Start at **48** and jump forward to **53**.
- 3 Count the gap of **5**. So $53 - 48 = 5$.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Did you prefer counting back or counting up the gap? When is each easier?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 50 points

Q2: 32 scores

Q3: 40 sliotars

Q4: 5 points

Q5: 3 points

a) **Always** — The lesson shows counting up is quicker for close pairs like $84 - 79$.

b) **Never** — Sometimes counting up the gap is better, as with $52 - 47$.

c) **Always** — The size of the gap is exactly the answer to the subtraction.

d) **Never** — Large jumps or counting up can be far quicker than many single steps.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 819

Investigation: Gap or count-back? — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.