Name _____ Date _____

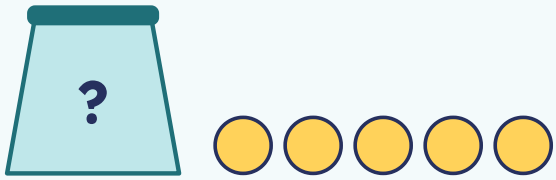
Hidden numbers

Find the missing number in a number sentence.

1 Learn



A number is **hiding**! Use the numbers you can see to find it.

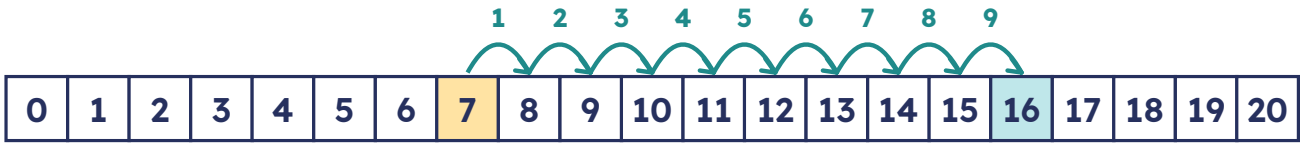


There are **8** altogether.
5 are showing.
Count on from 5 to 8: 6, 7, 8.

5 + ? = 8 → 3

7 = ? − 9

Something take away 9 leaves 7. Put the 9 back: start on **7** and count on **9**.



You land on **16**. Check: 16 − 9 = 7. ✓ So 7 = **16** − 9.

Flip's tip: = means "is the same as", so the answer can come first. Always check by putting your number back in.

Warm up: find the hidden number.

3 + ☐ = 5 **☐ + 1 = 4** **10 = 6 + ☐**

Grown-ups: if your child just adds or takes away the two numbers they can see, ask them to put their answer back in and check if it's true.

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Under the cup

You need: a plastic cup, up to 20 buttons (or pasta), a pencil.

1. Grown-up: hide some buttons under the cup and put some next to it.
2. Say how many there are altogether: "There are **8** altogether."
3. Child: count the ones showing. How many are hiding?
4. Lift the cup to check! Then swap jobs.

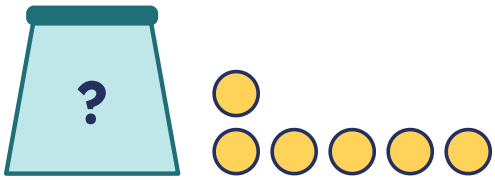
Altogether	Showing	Hiding	Right?
8	5		

Grown-ups: say the number sentence together each time, such as "5 and 3 more is the same as 8".

3 Practise

A. How many are hiding under the cup?

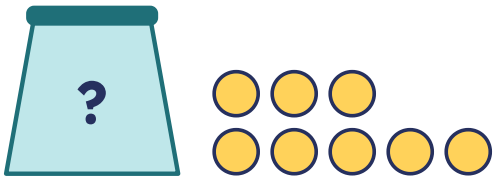
1.



9 altogether

$6 + \square = 9$

2.



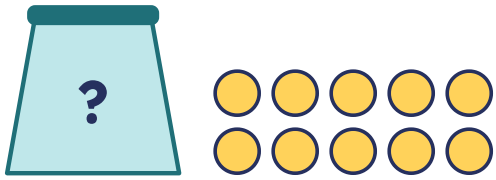
12 altogether

$8 + \square = 12$

Hidden numbers

Name _____ Date _____

3.



15 altogether

10 + ☐ = 15

B. Fill the box. Use the track if it helps.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

5 + ☐ = 8

☐ + 4 = 11

13 = 10 + ☐

9 − ☐ = 6

☐ − 2 = 10

7 = ☐ − 9

C. Ring the number that makes it true.

15 = ? + 5
10 **20**

4 = 12 − ?
8 **16**

? − 3 = 14
11 **17**

Challenge

Leo looks at **7 = ? − 9** and writes **2**. Put 2 back in: is 2 − 9 the same as 7? What is the hidden number?

I can… Tick when you can.

- ☐ find a hidden number
- ☐ check by putting it back in
- ☐ read = as "is the same as"