

## Stages in Subtraction

### Subtraction - Early Stages (EYFS)

Children will engage in a variety of counting songs and rhymes and practical activities.

In practical activities and through discussion they will begin to use the vocabulary associated with subtraction.

They will find one less than a given number.

They will begin to relate subtraction to 'taking away' **using objects** to count 'how many are left' after some have been taken away.

$$6 - 2 = 4$$



'Take two apples away. How many are left?'

Children will begin to count back from a given number.

### Subtraction - Year One

- **Given a number, identify one less**
- **Read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving subtraction (-) and the equals (=) sign**
- **Subtract one- digit and two-digit numbers within 20, including zero**
- **Solve missing number problems eg  $20 - \square = 15$**

**NB** Ensure that children are confident with the methods outlined in the previous year's guidance before moving on.

Children will continue to practise counting back from a given number.

Initially use a **number track** to **count back** for subtraction:



$$9 - 5 = 4$$

'Put your finger on number nine. Count back five.'