Name: ______ Date: _____

Taking away

 Take some objects away from a group and say how many are left

Your child has been learning about subtraction in 'number stories', so have had experience of removing a certain number from a set and counting the remaining objects to find the answer.

You will need:

- pencil
- small everyday objects, suitable for counting e.g. buttons, crayons, pasta shells

Your child also becoming more familiar with the words associated with subtraction, e.g. zero, one, two ... ten; less; take away; leaves; how many are left? Encourage them to use these words throughout the activities suggested.

What to do

Ask your child to count each set of objects in turn and then look at the number to take away (disappear). They cross out the number of objects to disappear and then count how many objects are left. They write this number in the box. Encourage your child to say the resulting subtraction number story, e.g. '8 rabbits take away 5 rabbits leaves three rabbits.'

What to do

Use the everyday counting objects to encourage your child to make up their own subtraction number stories, e.g. 'I've got 8 grapes. If I give 4 to my brother, then I'll have 4 left.'

What to do

Lay out in a row a number of counting objects (less than 10), e.g. 5 buttons. Ask your child to:

- count the objects
- close their eyes while you remove some of the objects, e.g. 2 buttons
- tell you how many objects you removed
- say the number sentence, i.e. 'Five take away two leaves three.'

Check the answer by revealing the objects you took away. Repeat several times, alternating roles, and using other numbers of objects (less than 10).

Feedback

Use this box to record any observations, comments or questions for your child's teacher.