

Finding the Difference

What You Need

number cards 1–9 (2 of each)
calculator
paper

What To Do

Work with a partner. Take turns being the Dealer or the Computer.

- 1 The Dealer:
 - turns over two cards to form a 2-digit number.
 - turns over two additional cards to form another 2-digit number.
 - subtracts the smaller number from the larger one using U.S. traditional subtraction and records the solution.
- 2 The Computer checks the solution using a calculator.
- 3 Trade roles. Repeat Steps 1–2.
- 4 Repeat this activity using 3-digit numbers. Then try 4-digit numbers. Subtract the smaller numbers from the larger ones.

Talk About It

What subtraction method do you prefer to use?

More You Can Do

Form a subtraction problem using two 5-digit numbers and solve.

