

THINKING WITH NUMBERS

Lesson Descriptions

Subtraction

A written record for subtraction can be created by trading a ten for 10 ones if needed, then separating the ones, then separating the tens. The trading is often called "borrowing." By trading and separating base ten blocks, children can make sense of these actions and learn to record the actions, that is, to create a written record called the symbolic procedure.

Expected content outcomes include helping children learn:

- to make sense of representing numbers with base ten blocks, then separating them to answer computational problems,
- to create a symbolic procedure by learning how to record the trading and separating actions with the base ten blocks on paper, and
- to become reasonably proficient subtracting numbers symbolically.

