Beginning to Use the Vocabulary Involved in Subtracting

Home Learning Challenges

Play a game of skittles – you could use empty plastic bottles or cardboard tubes as the skittles. How many skittles do you have? Roll a ball at the skittles. How many fall over? How many are left standing?

Use up to 10 building bricks to build a tower. How many bricks are in your tower? Take 2 of the bricks away. How many bricks are left? Can you tell a grown-up what you did?

Play a subtraction game while you have a snack. Count out five pieces of fruit on to a plate. Then, eat one of the pieces of fruit. How many are left? If your grown-up eats one piece of fruit, how many would be left?

Use 6 toy cars to play a subtraction game. Move the toys into a line on the carpet road. Then, put 1 of the toys into a cardboard box car park. How many cars are left on the road? Can you tell a grown-up about the number of cars there are? Can you use the words ‘away’ and ‘left’?

Make some playdough with a grown-up. Roll 8 balls of playdough. Use your hand to squash 1 of the balls of dough. How many balls are left?

Draw 5 fish and then cut them out. Count them on to a piece of blue paper. If 2 fish swim away, how many are left? Move the pictures to help you count. Can you ask a grown-up a question about the 5 fish? How many swim away this time? Can you check their answer?

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