Lecture Notes

MODULE 0: BASIC MATH

M0.3 Begin to Subtract

M0.3 Practice

Notes

- The order of the numbers being subtracted **cannot be changed**, like in addition.
  - The *Commutative Property of Addition* does not apply to subtraction.
  - There is no ~~Commutative Property of Subtraction~~.
- In arithmetic subtraction, the bigger number will be positioned on top.

$$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ -\ 4 \\ \hline 3 \end{array}$$

- Starting at **7**, we count backward **4** times: **7**, 6, 5, 4, **3**.
  - We are going to the **left** on the number line since we are **subtracting**.
- You may use finger counting at first.
  - Be careful to **not include** the starting number.

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ -\ 0 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$$

- Starting at **9**, we count backward **0** times.
- The answer is still **9**.

$$\begin{array}{r} 10 \\ -\ 1 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$$

- Starting at 10, we count backwards **1** time.
- The answer becomes **9**.

$$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ -\ \ 7 \\ \hline 8 \end{array}$$

- Be careful to **not count** the starting number.
- 15 – **7** = **8**.
- There is a difference of **7** places between the starting number (15) and the answer (**8**).