

Patterns in Integer Subtraction

1. Complete the tables.

You can use models to help you subtract.

Number	Operation	Number	Result
3	-	3	
3	-	2	
3	-	1	
3	-	0	
3	-	-1	
3	-	-2	
3	-	-3	

Number	Operation	Number	Result
-3	-	3	
-3	-	2	
-3	-	1	
-3	-	0	
-3	-	-1	
-3	-	-2	
-3	-	-3	

2. What patterns do you notice in the results?

How does subtracting a negative relate to what you know about adding a positive number?

Patterns in Integer Subtraction (cont'd)

3. Use a pattern from the tables to help you rewrite each subtraction statement as an addition statement. Determine each difference.

a) $(-3) - (-6)$

b) $(-3) - (+6)$

c) $(+3) - (-6)$

d) $(+3) - (+6)$

4. Describe a strategy you can use when subtracting integers. Be specific and include at least one example.