

# Mathematics Glossary » Table 1

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Common addition and subtraction.<sup>1</sup>

	<b>RESULT UNKNOWN</b>	<b>CHANGE UNKNOWN</b>	<b>START UNKNOWN</b>
<b>ADD TO</b>	Two bunnies sat on the grass. Three more bunnies hopped there. How many bunnies are on the grass now? $2 + 3 = ?$	Two bunnies were sitting on the grass. Some more bunnies hopped there. Then there were five bunnies. How many bunnies hopped over to the first two? $2 + ? = 5$	Some bunnies were sitting on the grass. Three more bunnies hopped there. Then there were five bunnies. How many bunnies were on the grass before? $? + 3 = 5$
<b>TAKE FROM</b>	Five apples were on the table. I ate two apples. How many apples are on the table now? $5 - 2 = ?$	Five apples were on the table. I ate some apples. Then there were three apples. How many apples did I eat? $5 - ? = 3$	Some apples were on the table. I ate two apples. Then there were three apples. How many apples were on the table before? $? - 2 = 3$
	<b>TOTAL UNKNOWN</b>	<b>ADDEND UNKNOWN</b>	<b>BOTH ADDENDS UNKNOWN<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>PUT TOGETHER / TAKE APART<sup>3</sup></b>	Three red apples and two green apples are on the table. How many apples are on the table? $3 + 2 = ?$	Five apples are on the table. Three are red and the rest are green. How many apples are green? $3 + ? = 5$ , $5 - 3 = ?$	Grandma has five flowers. How many can she put in the red vase and how many in her blue vase? $5 = 0 + 5$ , $5 + 0 = 5$ , $1 + 4 = 5$ , $4 + 1 = 5$ , $2 + 3 = 5$ , $3 + 2 = 5$
<b>COMPARE</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE UNKNOWN</b>	<b>BIGGER UNKNOWN</b>	<b>SMALLER UNKNOWN</b>
	("How many more?" version): Lucy has two apples. Julie has five apples. How many more apples does Julie have than Lucy? ("How many fewer?" version): Lucy has two apples. Julie has five apples. How many fewer apples does Lucy have than Julie? $2 + ? = 5$ , $5 - 2 = ?$	(Version with "more"): Julie has three more apples than Lucy. Lucy has two apples. How many apples does Julie have? (Version with "fewer"): Lucy has 3 fewer apples than Julie. Lucy has two apples. How many apples does Julie have? $2 + 3 = ?$ , $3 + 2 = ?$	(Version with "more"): Julie has three more apples than Lucy. Julie has five apples. How many apples does Lucy have? (Version with "fewer"): Lucy has 3 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has five apples. How many apples does Lucy have? $5 - 3 = ?$ , $? + 3 = 5$

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Box 2-4 of Mathematics Learning in Early Childhood, National Research Council (2009, pp. 32, 33).

<sup>2</sup> These take apart situations can be used to show all the decompositions of a given number. The associated equations, which have the total on the left of the equal sign, help children understand that the = sign does not always mean, makes or results in but always does mean is the same number as.

<sup>3</sup> Either addend can be unknown, so there are three variations of these problem situations. Both addends Unknown is a productive extension of the basic situation, especially for small numbers less than or equal to 10.

<sup>4</sup> For the Bigger Unknown or Smaller Unknown situations, one version directs the correct operation (the version using more for the bigger unknown

