

GRADE 3/4

FOCUS **Subtraction**

Warm-up:

How Much In My Pocket?

Give the boys and girls 8 questions to try and work out how much money I have in my pocket.

I can only answer yes or no. Record what information is gained on the board.

Tell them it is between \$1 and \$200.

Highlight the need for them to ask questions that get rid of more than one amount at a time.

Allow some initial 'turn & talk' time.

Demonstrate with arms extended how effective the questions are.

Introduction:

Go over the rules and general play for the game.

Objective is to try and make the largest difference that you can.

Do for a 3 digit minus a 3 digit number.

Tune children in by asking them what the best possible lay out of numbers would be in order to get the best result (or biggest difference). Is it $987 - 654$? What combination would give me a larger difference?

Restate rules – do one or two practice numbers.

Student Activity:

Play "Subtraction Pick It Out".

Have the numbers 0 to 9 in a container. As each number is randomly drawn from the container each student must decide what place value position that digit will go in – so that they make a number that when subtracted by another number, will give them the largest difference.

There is a definite element of luck in the game.

Person/s with the largest difference receives 3 points. 2nd largest difference = 2 points. 3rd largest = 1 point.

Children to work out the result using any method (including mental computation/adding on) that works for them. Show 'negative subtraction' method to students who may have difficulties but understand negative numbers.

Share/reflection:

Rocket Writing with 3 or 4 sentence starters.