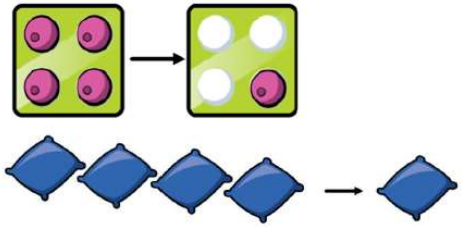
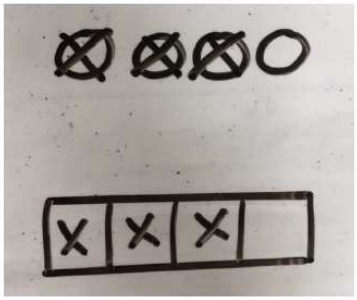
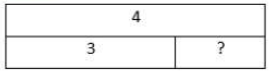
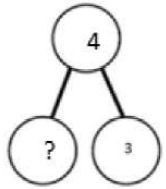
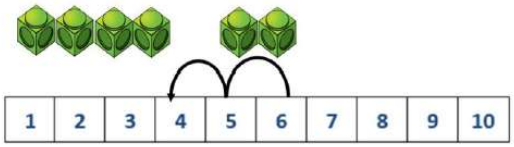
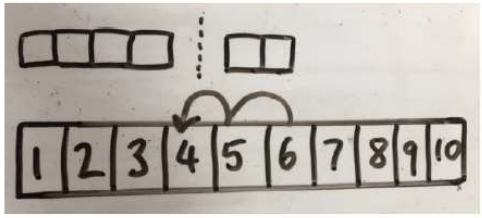
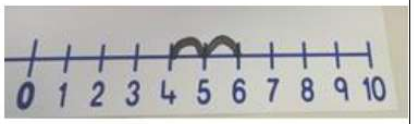
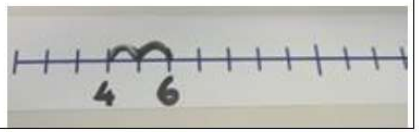
Spire Junior School

Calculation Policy: Subtraction

Key vocabulary: take away, less than, the difference, subtract, minus, fewer, decrease.

Concrete	Pictorial	Abstract
Physically taking away and removing objects from a whole (ten frames, Numicon, cubes and other items such as beanbags could be used). 4 – 3 = 1 	Children to draw the concrete resources they are using and cross out the correct amount. The bar model can also be used. 	4- 3 = □ = 4 – 3  
Counting back (using number lines or number tracks) children start with 6 and count back 2. 6 – 2 = 4  	Children to represent what they see pictorially e.g.  	Children to represent the calculation on a number line or number track and show their jumps. Encourage children to use an empty number line  

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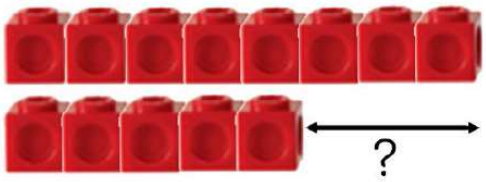
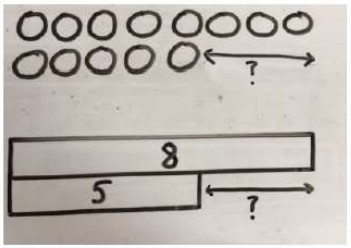
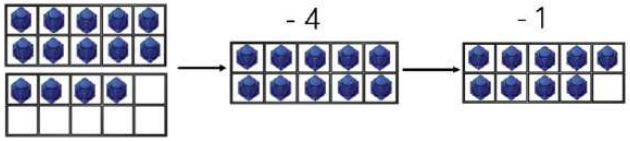
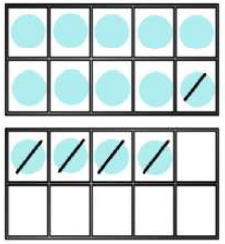
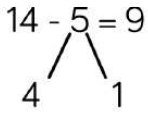
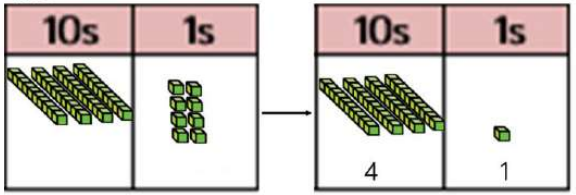
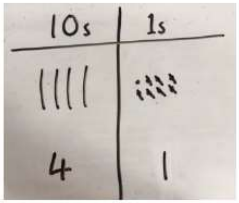
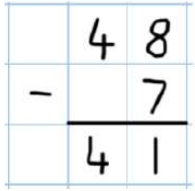
Finding the difference (using cubes, Numicon or Cuisenaire rods, other objects can also be used). Calculate the difference between 8 and 5. 	Children to draw the cubes/other concrete objects which they have used or use the bar model to illustrate what they need to calculate. 	Find the difference between 8 and 5. 8 – 5, the difference is ☐ Children to explore why 9 - 6 = 8 – 5 = 7 – 4 have the same difference.
Making 10 using ten frames. 14 – 5 	Children to present the ten frame pictorially and discuss what they did to make 10. 	Children to show how they can make 10 by partitioning the subtrahend.  14 – 4 = 10 10 – 1 = 9
Column method using base 10. 48-7 	Children to represent the base 10 pictorially. 	Column method or children could count back 7. 

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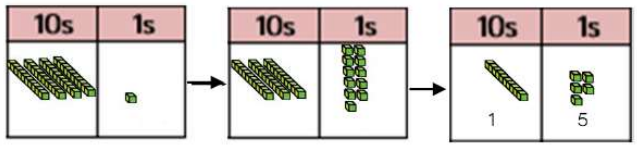
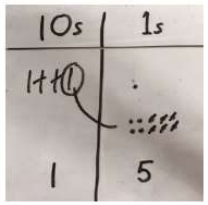
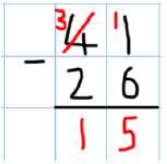
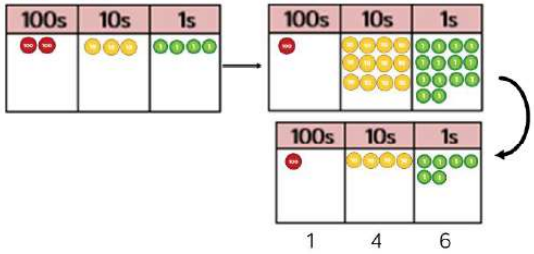
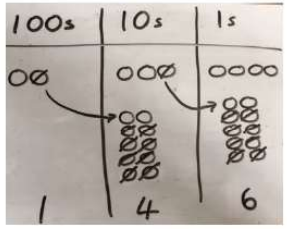
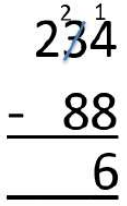
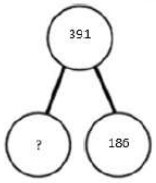
Column method using base 10 and having to exchange. 41 – 26 	Represent the base 10 pictorially, remembering to show the exchange. 	Formal column method. Children must understand that when they have exchanged the 10 they still have 41 because 41 = 30 + 11. 
Column method using place value counters. 234 – 88 	Represent the place value counters pictorially; remembering to show what has been exchanged. 	Formal colum method. Children must understand what has happened when they have crossed out digits. 

Conceptual variation; different ways to ask children to solve 391 - 186



391	
186	?

Raj spent £391, Timmy spent £186.
How much more did Raj spend?

Calculate the difference between 391 and 186.

□ = 391 – 186

391
-186
———

What is 186 less than 391?

Missing digit calculations