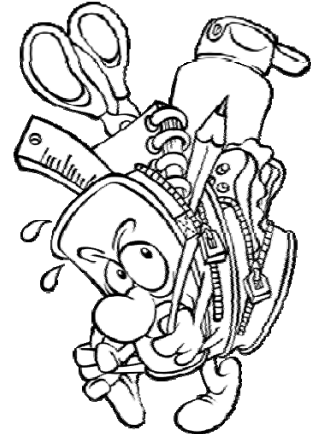# Vertical Subtraction Math Facts Step-by-Step Lesson

Complete the subtraction problem below.

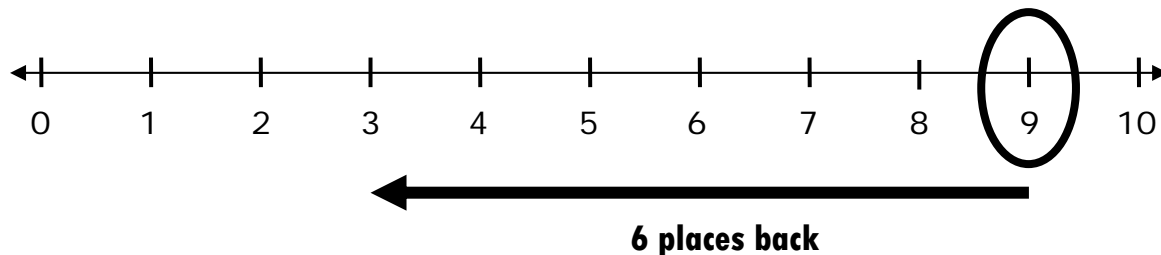$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ -\quad 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Step 1: Understand what the problem says.

In this case, the subtraction symbol tells us that we need to take 6 away from 9.

Step 2: Take away is the same thing as counting backwards from the starting number.

Taking 6 away from 9 is the same thing as counting 6 places back from 9.

6 places back

$9 - 6 = 3$

You could also count down 6 places from 9.

9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3

1   2   3   4   5   6