Finding Unknowns

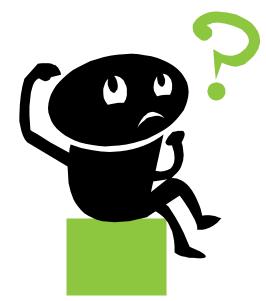


Unknowns are typically labeled with an X, but any letter will do.

Unknowns are numbers we do not know yet, but can solve to get.

Replace the unknown with a letter.

$$x + 3 = 12$$



Find the unknown by performing the same operations on each side.

$$X + 3 = 12$$
 so $x + 3 - 3 = 12 - 3 = 9$ so $x = 9$