Name _____   Date _____

Subtracting Decimals (Thousandths) Lesson and Practice

Subtract the given decimal numbers.

$$21.506$$
$$-12.109$$

Solution:

Step 1   Subtract the digits from right
to left starting from the
thousandth place. Note the
carry over taken from the
higher place value digits.
Also note the values resulting
after taking the carry over.

<div align="right">

4 9 16
21.~~506~~
-12.109
___397

</div>

Step 2   Place decimal point directly
below starting position.

21.506
-12.109
.397

Step 3   Subtract the remaining digits
at the ones and the tens
place. Note the carry over
taken from higher place
value digits.

1 11
~~21~~.506
-12.109
9.397

Step 4   Therefore the subtraction is:

21.506
-12.109
9.397

Answer: 9.397

Practice Problems.

1   39.529
        -20.416

2   19.391
        -11.984