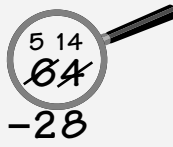
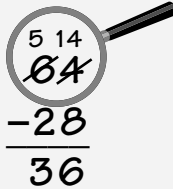




Dear Family,

Your child is now learning how to subtract 2-digit numbers. The big mystery is how to get enough ones in order to subtract. As with addition, children first use methods they invent themselves. We have found that children take pride in using their own methods.

In this program, children learn two methods for 2-digit subtraction, but children may use any method that they understand, can explain, and can do fairly quickly.

Expanded Method	Ungroup First Method
<p><b>Step 1</b> "Expand" each number to show that it is made up of tens and ones.</p> $\begin{array}{r} 64 = 60 + 4 \\ -28 = 20 + 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p><b>Step 2</b> Check to see if there are enough ones to subtract from. If not, ungroup a ten into 10 ones and add it to the existing ones.</p> $\begin{array}{r} \phantom{6}4 = \phantom{6}0 + \cancel{4} \\ -28 = 20 + 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p><b>Step 3</b> Subtract to find the answer. Children may subtract from left to right or right to left.</p> $\begin{array}{r} \phantom{6}4 = \phantom{6}0 + \cancel{4} \\ -28 = 20 + 8 \\ \hline 30 + 6 = 36 \end{array}$	<p><b>Step 1</b> Check to see if there are enough ones to subtract from. If not, ungroup by opening up 1 of the 6 tens in 64 to be 10 ones. 4 ones plus these new 10 ones make 14 ones. We draw a "magnifying glass" around the top number to focus children on whether they need to ungroup before subtraction.</p>  $\begin{array}{r} 5 \ 14 \\ \text{64} \\ -28 \\ \hline \end{array}$ <p><b>Step 2</b> Subtract to find the answer. Children may subtract from left to right or right to left.</p>  $\begin{array}{r} 5 \ 14 \\ \text{64} \\ -28 \\ \hline 36 \end{array}$

In explaining any method they use, children are expected to use "tens and ones" language. This shows that they understand they are subtracting 2 tens from 5 tens (not 2 from 5) and 8 ones from 14 ones.

Please call if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,  
Your child's teacher