

Adding and Subtracting Negative and Positive Numbers

Negative numbers are less than zero and written with a sign, e.g. (-3). Positive numbers are greater than zero and usually don't have a sign, e.g. 4. (Images created using free virtual manipulatives available at Mathsbot.com)

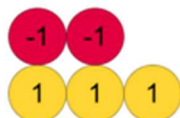
Adding a positive number

$2 + 3$



Answer: 5

$(-2) + 3$



Answer: 1

Subtracting a positive number

$6 - 3$



Answer: 3

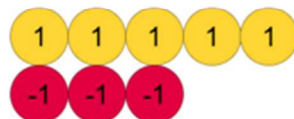
$(-6) - 3$



Answer: (-9)

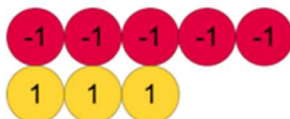
Adding a negative number

$5 + (-3)$



Answer: 2

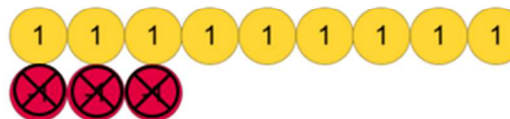
$(-5) + 3$



Answer: (-2)

Subtracting a negative number

$6 - (-3)$



Answer: 9

$(-6) - (-3)$



Answer: (-3)