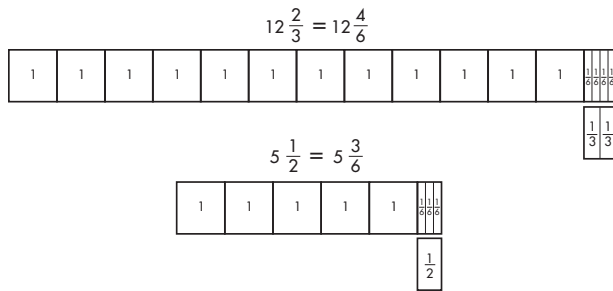


Subtracting Mixed Numbers

The Plainville Zoo has had elephants for $12\frac{2}{3}$ years. The zoo has had zebras for $5\frac{1}{2}$ years. How many years longer has the zoo had elephants?

Step 1: Write equivalent fractions with the least common denominator. You can use fraction strips.



Step 2: Find the difference of $12\frac{4}{6} - 5\frac{3}{6}$. Subtract the fractions. Then subtract the whole numbers. Simplify the difference if possible.

$$\frac{4}{6} - \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$12 - 5 = 7$$

So, $12\frac{2}{3} - 5\frac{1}{2} = 7\frac{1}{6}$ years.

Example 2: Sometimes you may have to rename a fraction so you can subtract.

Find the difference of $6 - 2\frac{3}{8}$.

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \longrightarrow \text{rename} \longrightarrow 5\frac{8}{8} \\ - 2\frac{3}{8} \\ \hline 3\frac{5}{8} \end{array}$$

For **1** through **4**, find each difference. Simplify, if possible.

Remember: You may have to rename a fraction in order to subtract.

1.
$$\begin{array}{r} 4\frac{3}{5} \\ - 2\frac{1}{3} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

2.
$$\begin{array}{r} 5\frac{6}{7} \\ - 1\frac{1}{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

3.
$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ - 1\frac{3}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

4.
$$\begin{array}{r} 6\frac{5}{6} \\ - 5\frac{1}{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

5. To find the difference of $7 - 3\frac{5}{12}$, how do you rename the 7?

6. Robyn ran $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles last week. She ran $4\frac{1}{10}$ miles this week. How many more miles did she run last week?

Name _____

Subtracting Mixed Numbers

For 1 through 10, find each difference. Simplify, if possible.

1. $10\frac{3}{4}$
 $- 7\frac{1}{4}$

2. $7\frac{3}{7}$
 $- 2\frac{8}{21}$

3. 3
 $- 2\frac{2}{3}$

4. $17\frac{7}{8}$
 $- 12\frac{3}{12}$

5. $9\frac{5}{9} - 6\frac{5}{6}$ _____

6. $4\frac{3}{4} - 2\frac{2}{3}$ _____

7. $6\frac{1}{4} - 3\frac{1}{3}$ _____

8. $5\frac{1}{5} - 3\frac{7}{8}$ _____

9. $8\frac{2}{7} - 7\frac{1}{3}$

10. $2\frac{9}{10} - 2\frac{1}{3}$

The table shows the length and width of several kinds of bird eggs.

Egg Sizes in Inches (in.)

Bird	Length	Width
Canada goose	$3\frac{2}{5}$	$2\frac{3}{10}$
Robin	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{5}$
Turtledove	$1\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{9}{10}$
Raven	$1\frac{9}{10}$	$1\frac{3}{10}$

11. How much longer is the Canada goose egg than the raven egg?

12. How much wider is the turtledove egg than the robin egg?

13. Which is the difference of $21\frac{15}{16} - 18\frac{3}{4}$?

A $2\frac{7}{16}$

B $2\frac{9}{16}$

C $3\frac{3}{16}$

D $3\frac{9}{16}$

14. Explain why it is necessary to rename $4\frac{1}{4}$ if you subtract $\frac{3}{4}$ from it.

