

Subtracting using a  
number line

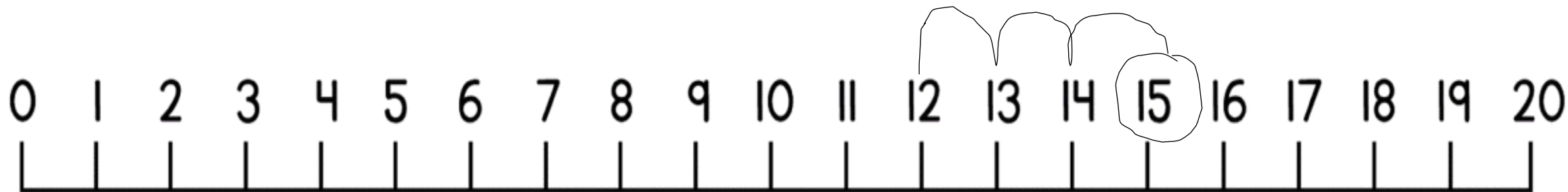
Let's recap how we work out subtraction using a number line.

When we take away on a number line, we have to do our jumps backwards because take away means the number is getting smaller.

$$15 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$$

We always start with the largest number in subtraction number sentences.

Then use the 2<sup>nd</sup> number to do that many jumps backwards. The number you land on is your answer!



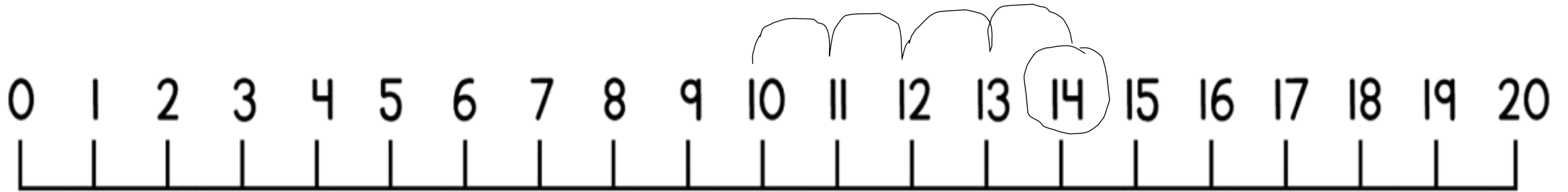
What is my answer here?

$$14 - 4 = 10$$

*I've started with 14.*

*Then I've done 4 jumps backwards.*

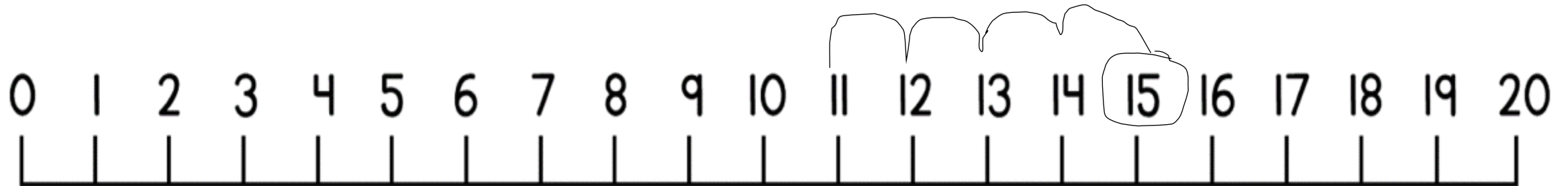
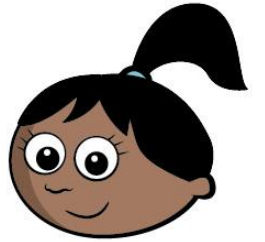
*I've landed on 10 and that is my answer.*



Sam uses a number line to work out a subtraction.

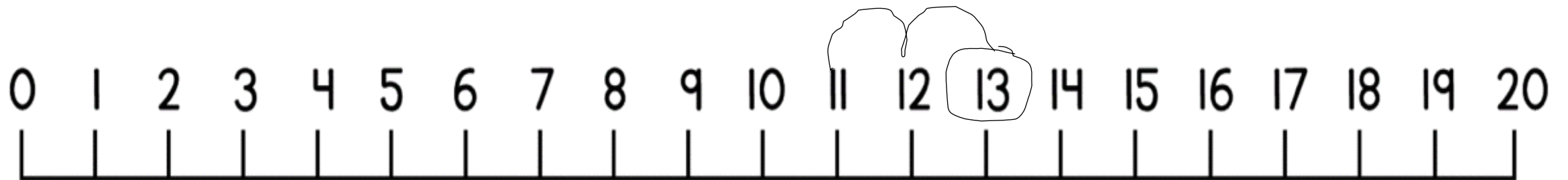
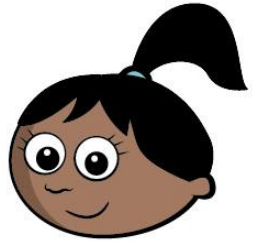
What is the number sentence?

$$15 - 4 = 11$$



Sam has started at 15 which must be the first number in our number sentence.  
Then we can count our jumps and there are 4 jumps backwards.  
She has landed on 11 which is the answer!

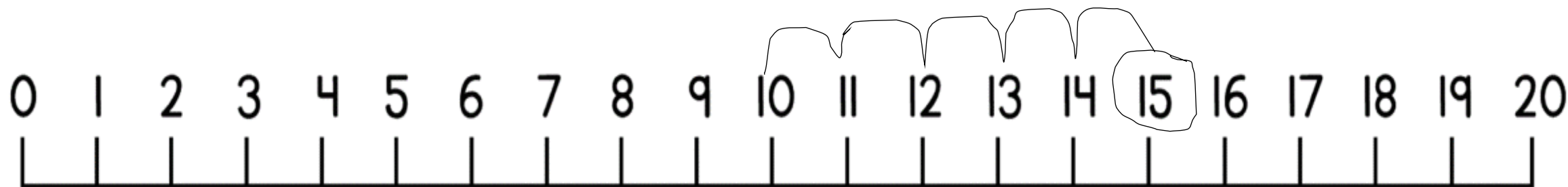
Sam uses a number line to work out a subtraction.



What is the number sentence now?

$$\underline{\quad\quad} - \underline{\quad\quad} = \underline{\quad\quad}$$

There are 15 cookies in a jar. Mo eats 5 of them. How many cookies are left?



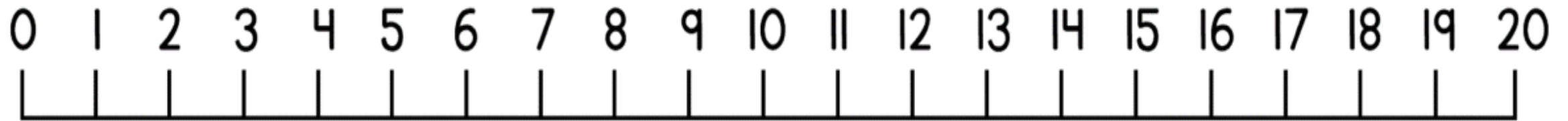
We start with 15 because this is our whole number.

Then we look at how many have been eaten which is 5 so we do 5 jumps backwards.

The number we've landed on is our answer!

$$15 - 5 = 10$$

There are 16 cookies in a jar. Mo eats 2 of them. How many cookies are left?

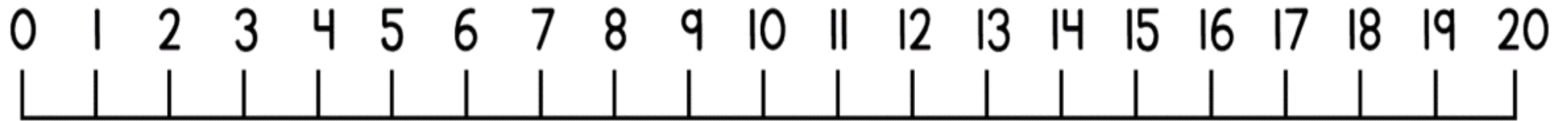


What would my answer be?  
What would the number sentence be?

$$\underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$$

Remember eaten means there will be less, and less means you have to take away.

There are 14 toys in a toy box. 3 of the toys are thrown out. How many are left?



What would my answer be?  
What would the number sentence be?

$$\underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$$

Remember if the question is asking you for how many is left, then it is a subtraction question.

Now have a go at working out the questions on your sheet. Use the number line to show your working out. Remember to do the jumps neatly and carefully.