

Using stories to show addition and subtraction together introduction

1 A story that grows — then reverses

Tell a short story where a group grows first. There are three children on the swings, and two more children come to play.

"Three children were on the swings, then two more came to play. What happened? What equation shows that?"

Continue the same story. The two children who came now go home again, back to three.

"The two children who came now leave again. What equation shows that?"

Look at both equations together. Ask why the group ended up back at three, and what the two equations have in common.

"We added two, then we took away two. Where did we end up, and why?"

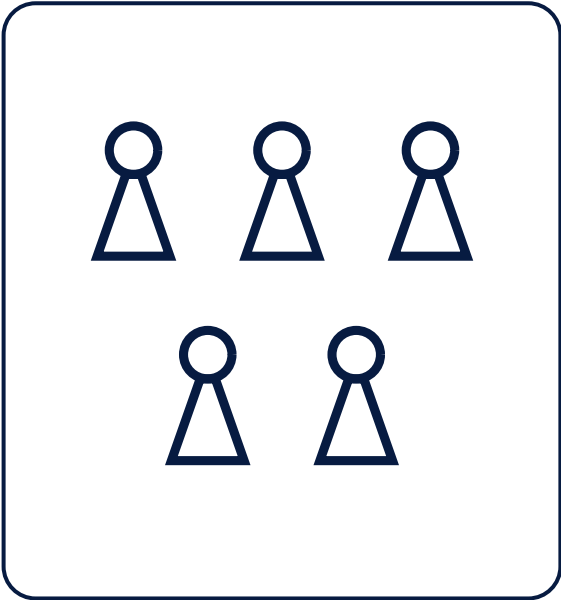
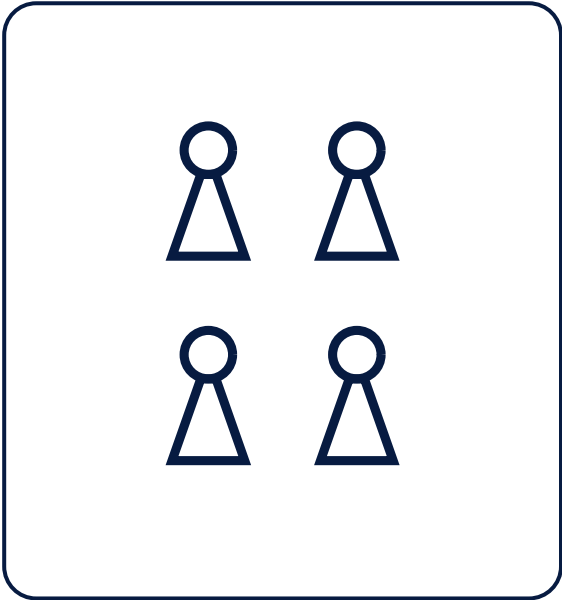
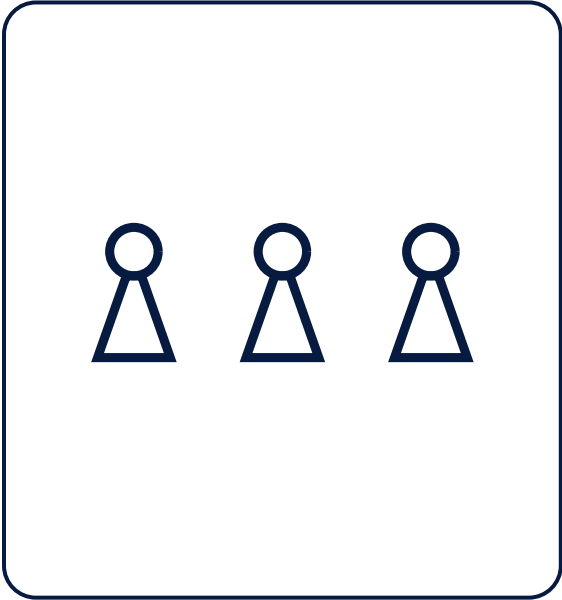
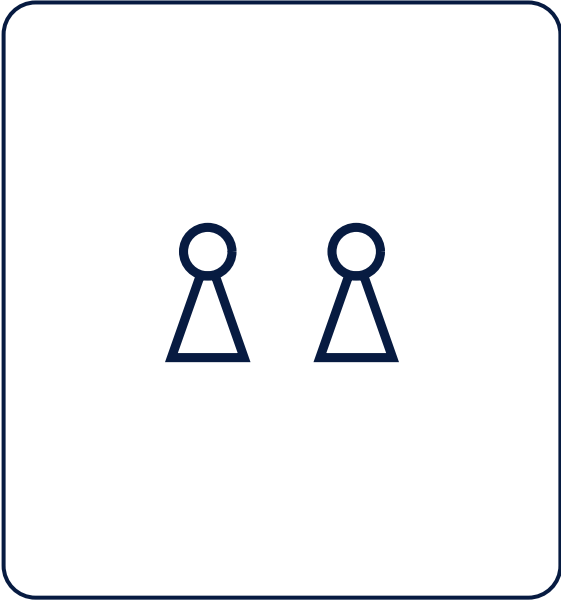
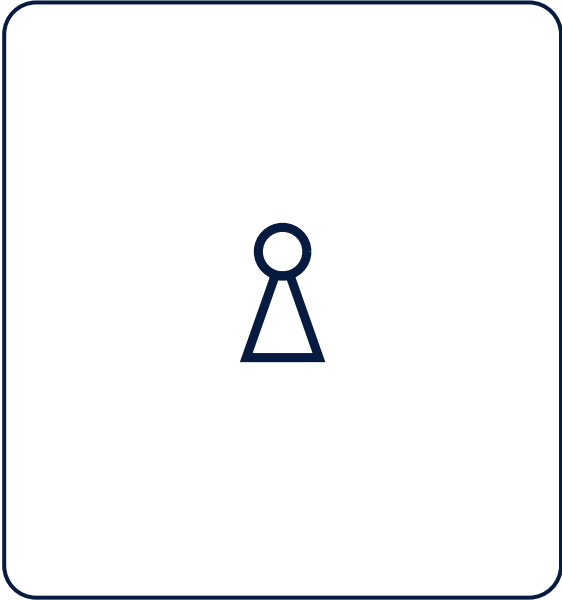
Try a second story as a class, such as cookies going into a jar and coming back out again.

"Look at both equations. What is the same about them? What is different?"

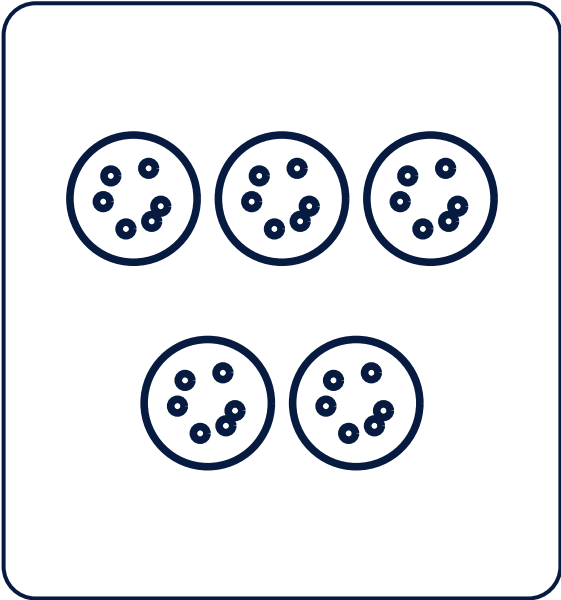
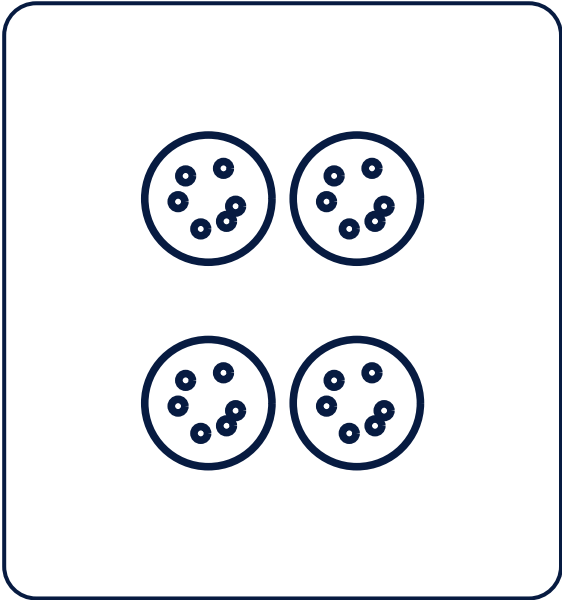
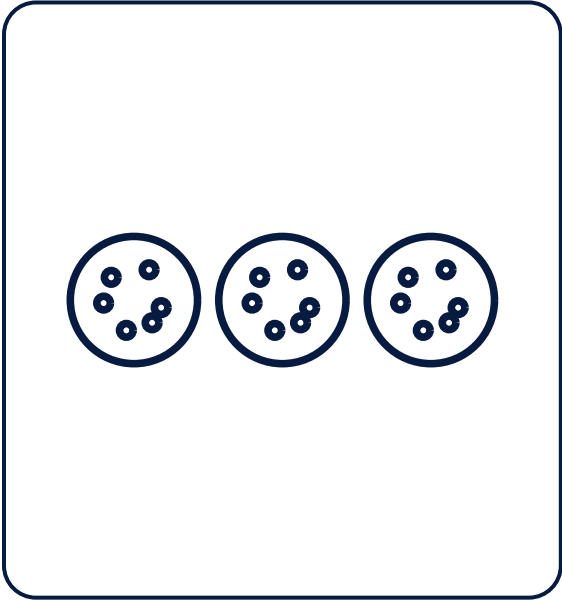
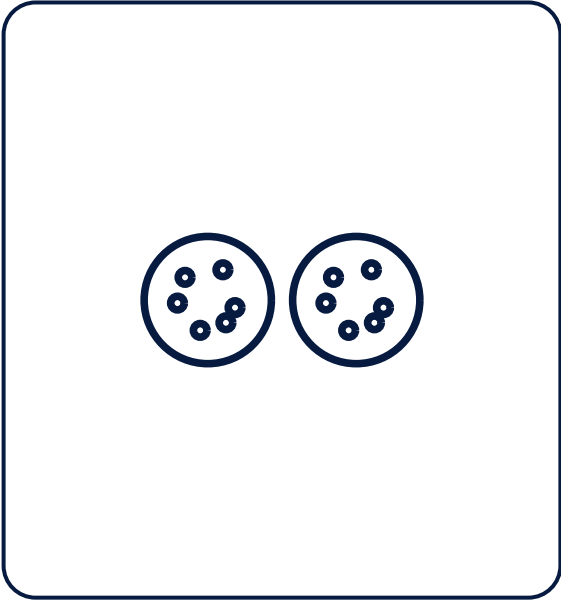
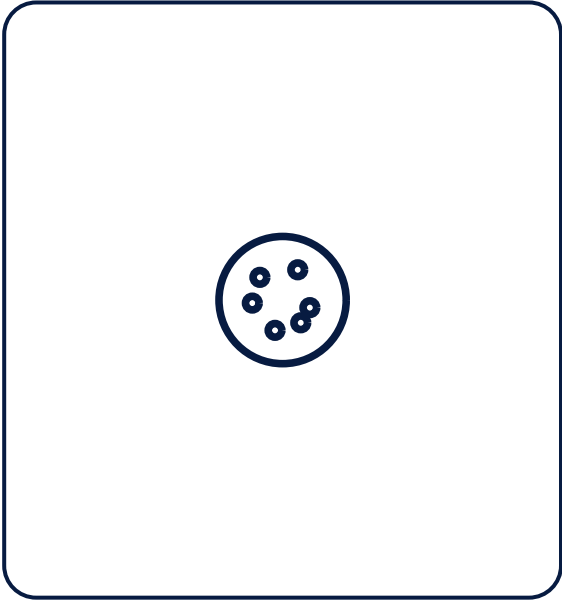
Show that a story can also start the other way, with some leaving first and the same number coming back.

"This time some birds fly away first, then the same number fly back. What is the subtraction? What addition undoes it?"

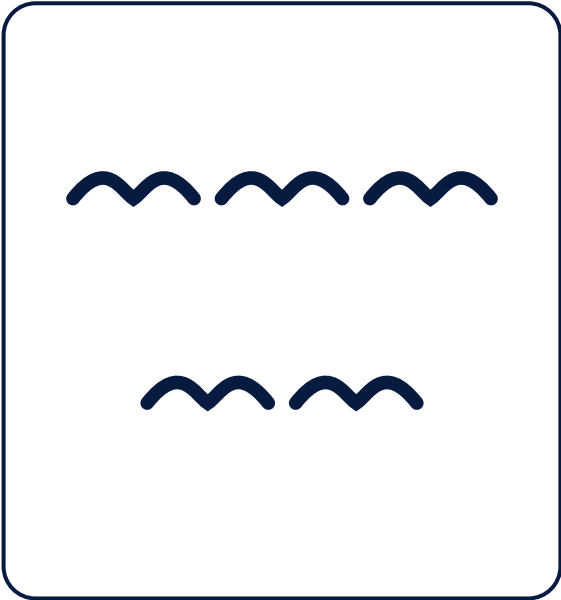
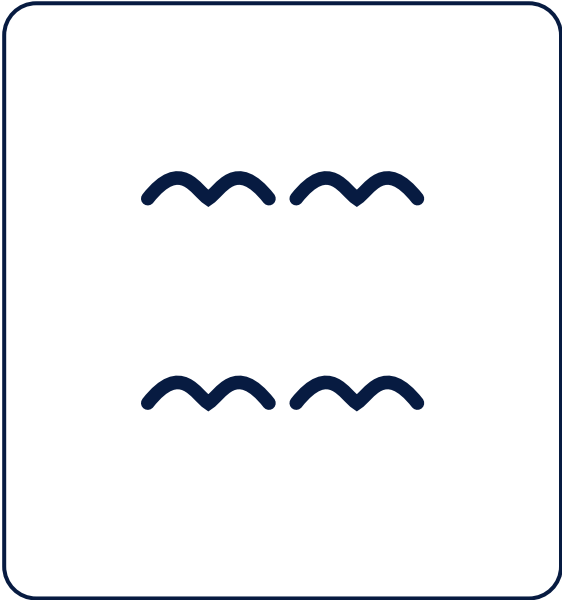
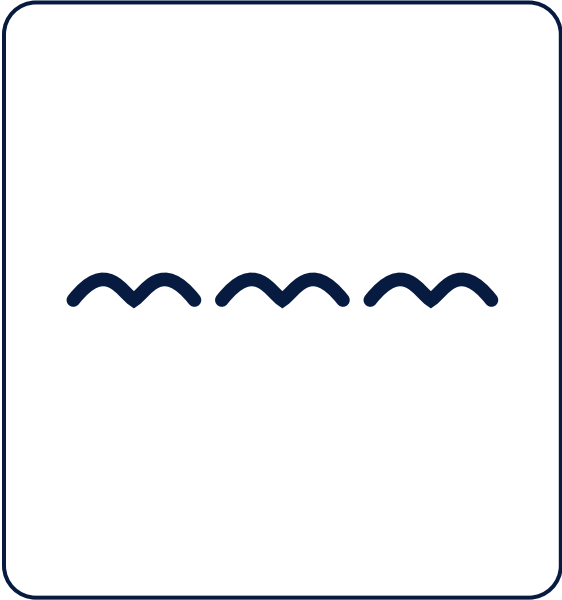
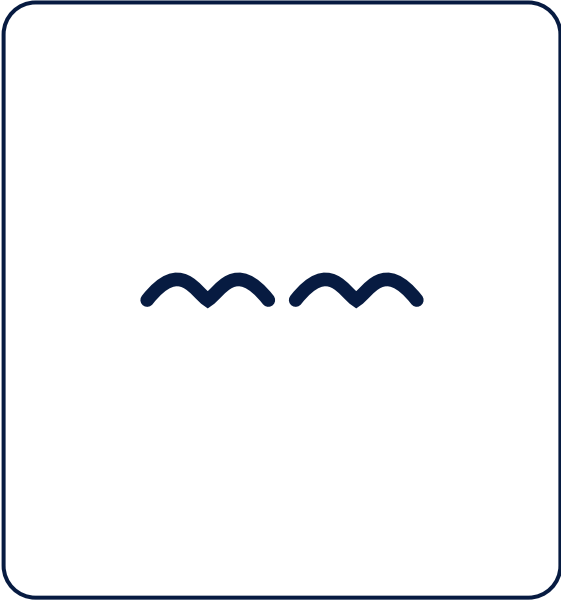
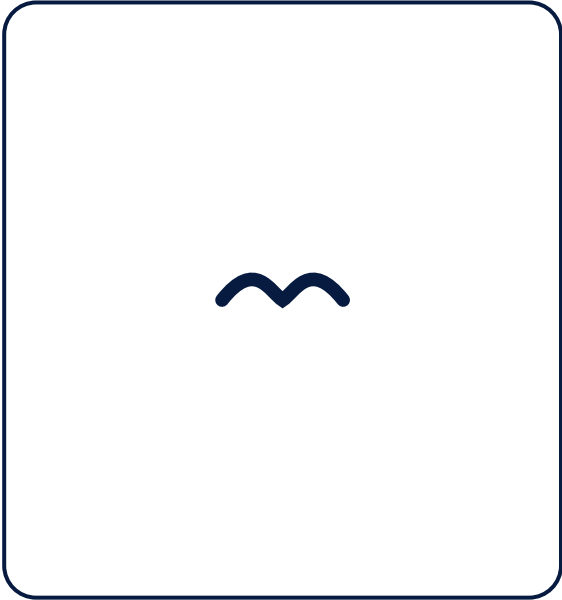
Counting cards — Children — demonstration



Counting cards — Cookies — demonstration



Counting cards — Birds — demonstration



Equation cards — demonstration

$$3 + 2 = 5$$

$$5 - 2 = 3$$

$$1 + 2 = 3$$

$$3 - 2 = 1$$

$$6 - 2 = 4$$

$$4 + 2 = 6$$