

Using bar models to show addition and subtraction together introduction

1 Place the strips — then draw the bar to match

Place the five-strip down, then the three-strip and two-strip underneath it, checking their combined length matches the five-strip exactly.

"Here are the parts, three and two, sitting under the whole, five. Do they fit together exactly?"

Draw a bar to match what the strips just showed, labelling the same two parts.

"Now I draw the bar to match. Five split into three and two. What equation shows that?"

Take the two-strip away, leaving only the three-strip, then cover the two on the drawn bar to match.

"Now I take the two away. What is left in the strips? What equation shows that on the drawn bar?"

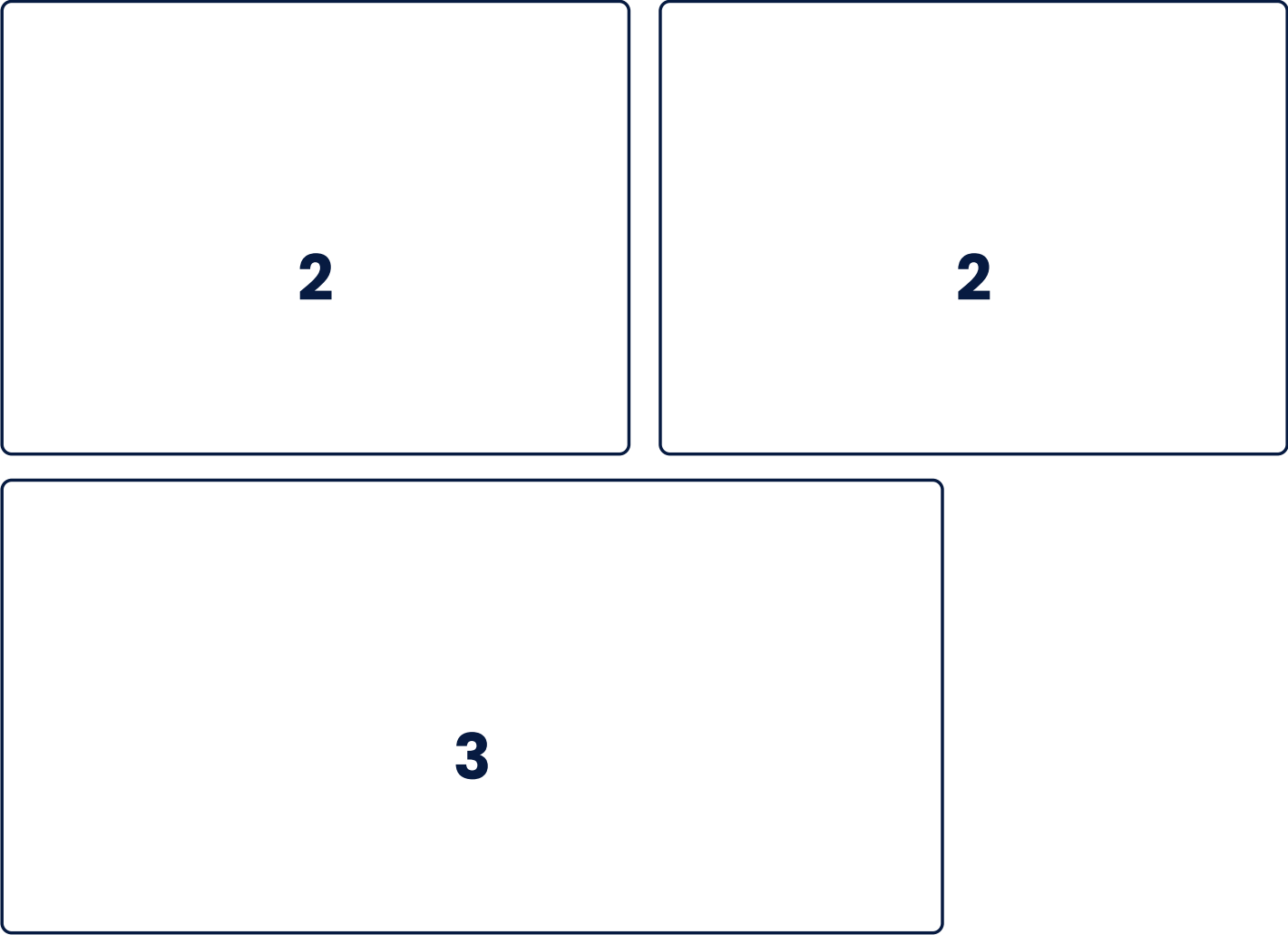
Place the addition and subtraction cards under the same bar and compare them to what was built.

"Look at the bar and both equation cards. Where do you see the five, the two and the three in each one?"

Show that covering the other part gives a different, equally true subtraction — find that card too.

"What if I had taken the three away instead? Which equation card would that be?"

Bar pieces — for the introduction examples



3

5

Equation cards — demonstration

$$3 + 2 = 5$$

$$5 - 2 = 3$$

$$2 + 3 = 5$$

$$5 - 3 = 2$$