



We could also show the subtraction on the number line.

To solve  $9-5$  on the number line, we start at 9 and go left 5 units to 4.

Aye. All excellent methods.

Now, which o' these methods can we be usin' to solve  $5-9$ ?

Grogg's number line method seems best. To subtract  $5-9$ , we can start at 5 and move left 9 units.

We subtract 5 to get to zero, then 4 more to get to  $-4$ .

$5-9=-4$ .

My way is a little trickier, but it still works.

To answer  $5-9$ , we can find the number we add to 9 to get 5.

Since  $(-4)+9=5$ ,  
 $5-9=-4$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} -4 + 9 = 5 \\ \underline{\phantom{-4} + 9} \\ 5 - 9 = \underline{-4} \end{array}$$

Good.

Try a few more.

$7-10$   
 $-6-13$   
 $-8-4$   
 $5-(-3)$

Try them.

When we subtract  $7-10$ , we go 3 units below 0. So,  $7-10=-3$ .

$$7-10 = -3$$

We can solve  $-6-13$  on the number line, too.

Starting at  $-6$ , we go 13 units to the left to land on  $-19$ .

$$-6-13 = -19$$

$-8-4$  is  $-12$ .

$$-8-4 = -12$$

Hmmm. I'm gonna need a little help here.

How do we subtract a *negative*?

$$5-(-3)$$

Maybe we can try to solve  $5-(-3)$  using addition.

To answer  $5-(-3)$ , we need to find the number we add to  $-3$  to get 5.

$$5-(-3) = \underline{\quad}$$

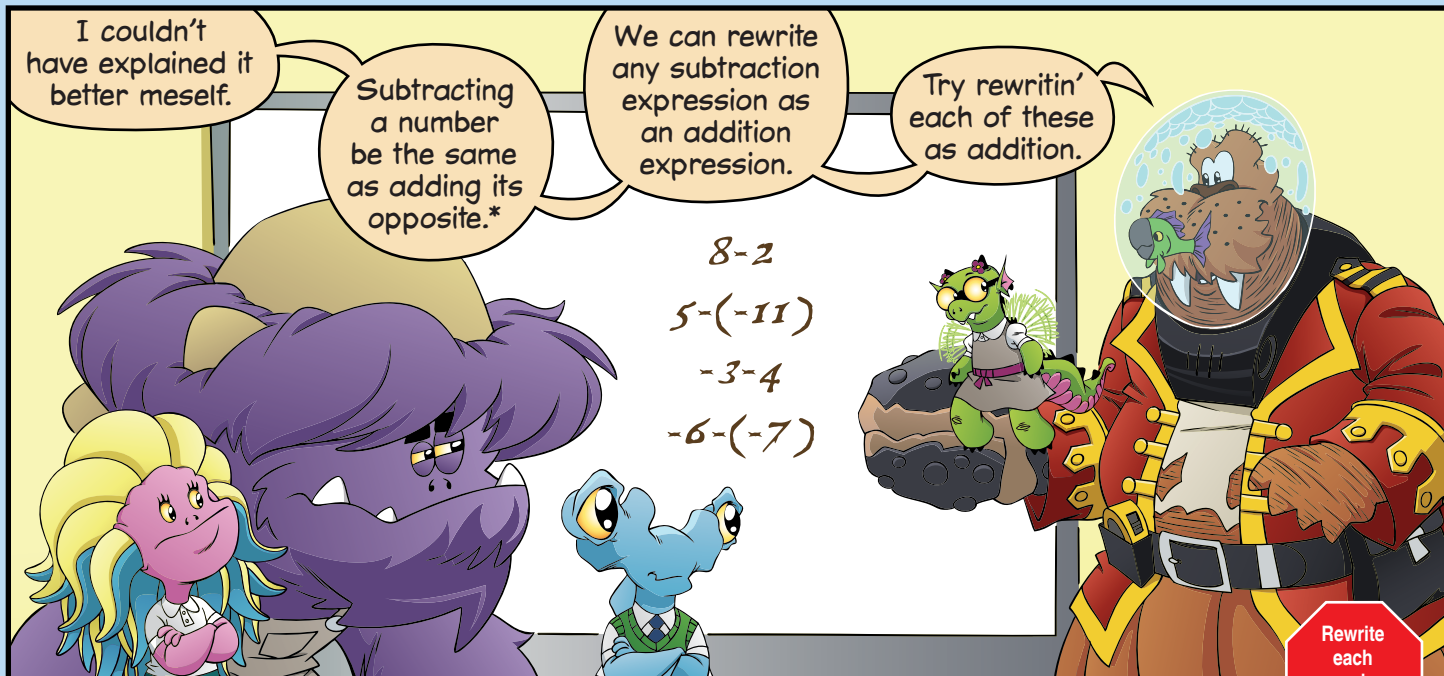
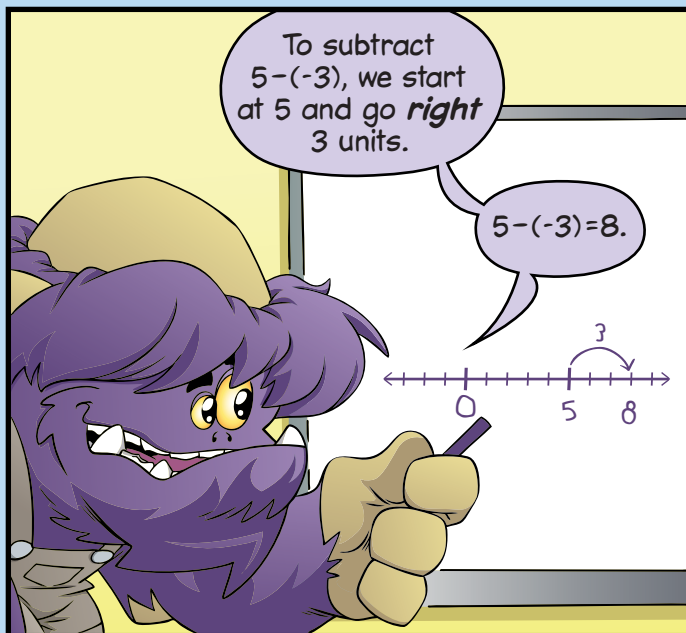
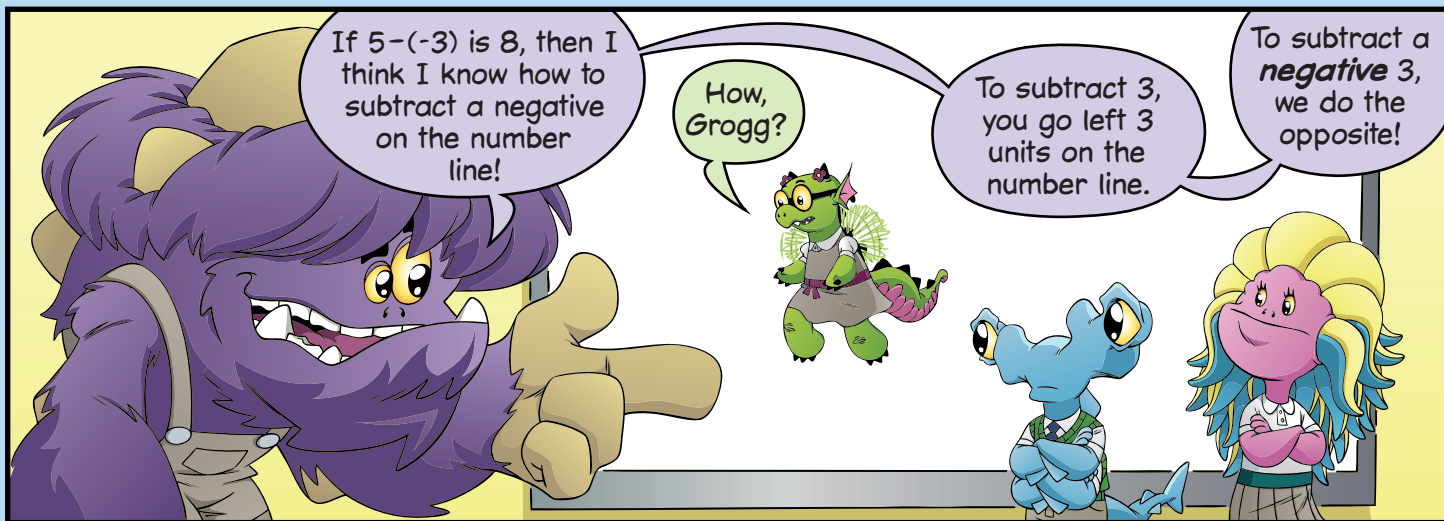
$$\underline{\quad} + (-3) = 5$$

Since  $8+(-3)=5$ ...

... $5-(-3)$  must be 8!

$$5-(-3) = \underline{8}$$

$$\underline{8} + (-3) = 5$$



\*THIS IS SO IMPORTANT, WE WILL REPEAT IT:  
**SUBTRACTING A NUMBER IS THE SAME AS ADDING ITS OPPOSITE.**

Rewrite each expression as a sum.