

Smart Difference Answer Key

1. Estimate: $8 - 3 = 5$; Exact: 5.35
2. Estimate: $13 - 6 = 7$; Exact: 6.46
3. Estimate: $9 - 5 = 4$; Exact: 4.54
4. Estimate: $15 - 7 = 8$; Exact: 8.17
5. Estimate: $11 - 3 = 8$; Exact: 8.17
6. Estimate: $19 - 9 = 10$; Exact: 9.46
7. Estimate: $7 - 4 = 3$; Exact: 3.36
8. Estimate: $22 - 12 = 10$; Exact: 9.37
9. Estimate: $14 - 6 = 8$; Exact: 8.66
10. Estimate: $16 - 9 = 7$; Exact: 7.06

Teacher's Guide

- Review rounding decimals to the nearest whole number before students begin.
- Encourage students to complete the estimate first, then solve the exact subtraction.
- Discuss whether each exact answer is close to the estimate and why.
- Allow students to use estimation to check if an exact answer is reasonable.
- Pair students to compare estimates and explain any differences in reasoning.
- Support students with a number line for rounding if needed.
- Challenge early finishers to round to the nearest tenth and make a second estimate.
- Ask students to write one subtraction problem whose estimate is exactly 6 and exchange it with a partner.