Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Reteaching 1-5

Subtracting Real Numbers

OBJECTIVE: Subtracting integers and decimals **MATERIALS:** None

Review the following subtraction rules.

- To subtract a number, rewrite the problem to add the opposite of the number.
- Follow the rules for addition of numbers.

Example

The following example shows you step by step how to subtract two numbers.

$5 - 11$		
$5 + (-11)$	←	**Rewrite the problem to add the opposite of the number.**
$11 - 5$	←	**Find the difference of their absolute values.**
6	←	**Subtract.**
-6	←	**Since -11 has the greater absolute value, the answer takes the negative sign.**

Exercises

Simplify. Be sure to check the sign of your answer.

1. $7 - 12$ **2.** $6 - 9$ **3.** $4 - (-5)$ **4.** $7 - (-3)$

5. $-6 - 4$ **6.** $-7 - 2$ **7.** $-5 - (-4)$ **8.** $-3 - (-10)$

9. $-3.1 - (-5.4)$ **10.** $8.3 - 5.1$ **11.** $-7.8 - 6.6$ **12.** $-4.8 - 2.5$

13. $8.7 - 2.5$ **14.** $-4.6 - (-3)$ **15.** $-9.3 - (-8.1)$ **16.** $-9.9 - 3.8$

Evaluate each expression for $a = -4$ and $b = 3$.

17. $a - b$ **18.** $-a - b$ **19.** $a - (-b)$ **20.** $-a - (-b)$

21. $3b - a$ **22.** $-|b|$ **23.** $|a - b|$ **24.** $|a| - 3|b|$

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