

Beehive Activity – 4a

1. Hand out one blank hive to each student.
2. Say (to each student in turn):
 - ***Here are (state the number) bees***

Show a collection of bees to the student (it should be between 1 and 20), and then place them on the hive.
 - ***If (state a number between 1 and 3) bees fly away, how many will be left?***

Encourage the students to ‘count-back’ from the number of bees on the hive as they remove them one at a time.

If it is too difficult, students may need to recount the collection after the bees have been removed. If this is necessary, put the bees back and model removing them one at a time while reciting the backwards count, after they have found the answer using the above ‘count all’ strategy.
3. When student states how many bees will remain, say:
 - ***Count them to see if you are right***
4. Say (to all):
 - ***Do you all agree?***
5. If there is disagreement, perhaps get all students to count back from the first number as bees are removed to get the correct answer.
6. Say (to all):
 - ***So, (number of bees on the hive) take away (given number) equals (total) - eg “eight take away three equals five”.***
7. If students are confident, arrange them in pairs – students take turns at posing problems for each other using bees and hives in the same way.