

Ghost Towns

A Reading A-Z Level L Leveled Book

Word Count: 478

LEVELED BOOK • L

Ghost Towns

Connections

Writing and Art

Create an imaginary ghost town. Give it a name and a location on a map, then write a story about how it became a ghost town. Share your ghost town with your class.

Social Studies

Choose two of the ghost towns from the book. Compare and contrast the towns using a Venn diagram. Share your Venn diagram with a partner.

Multi
Level
L•O•R

Reading A-Z

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Written by Kira Freed

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Ghost Towns



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Focus Question

What is a ghost town? How does a town become a ghost town?

Words to Know

diamond
erupted
landslides

nuclear power plant
radiation
resource

Page 3: A city in Turkey became a ghost town after a war between Greece and Turkey. After Greece lost the war, Greek people in the city had to leave.

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Correlation

LEVEL L	
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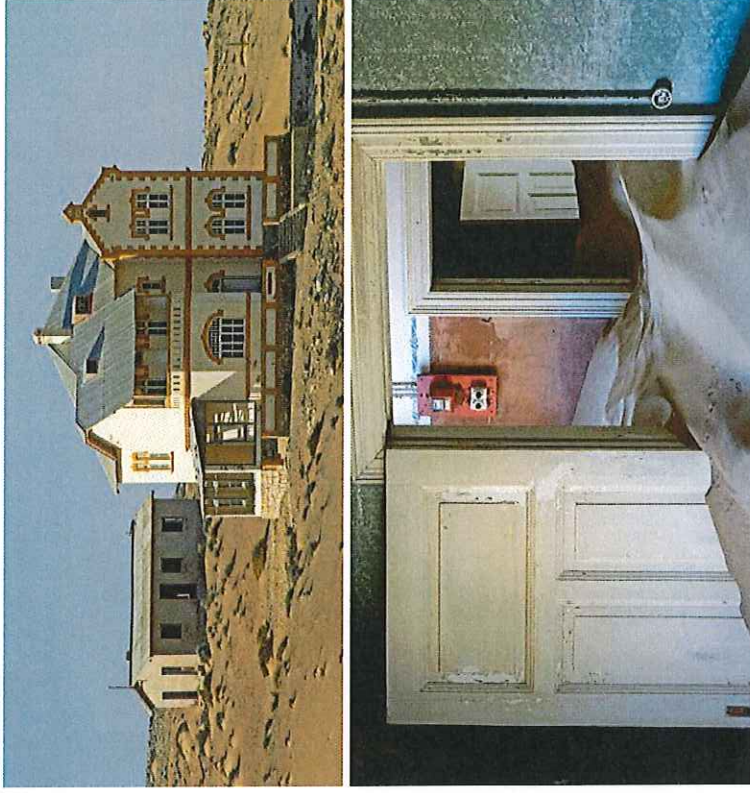
Bannack, Montana, is a ghost town and a state park that people can visit.

A Deserted Town

Ghost towns are empty places where people once lived. People often leave these towns because of some threat or because they can no longer find work. Each town has a story to tell.

Ghost Towns Around the World

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 North America 10 North America 13 Europe 9 Europe 3 Europe 12 Asia 14 Asia 12 Asia 6 Africa 8 South America 15 South America 7 South America 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Craco, Italy, page 9 Centralia, Pennsylvania, page 10 Okuma, Japan, page 12 (main) Pripyat, Ukraine, page 12 (sidebar) St. Kilda, Scotland, page 15 Ordos, China, page 16 Villa Epecuen (VEE-yuh e-pe-KWEN), Argentina, page 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kayakoy, Turkey, page 3 Bannack, Montana, page 4 Kolmanskop (KOHL-mun-skop), Namibia, page 6 Grytviken (GRIT-vee-kuhn), South Georgia, page 7 Plymouth, Montserrat (mon-sur-RAT), page 8 	



Germans built the town after someone found a diamond (top). Today, the buildings are full of sand (bottom).

Resources Vanish

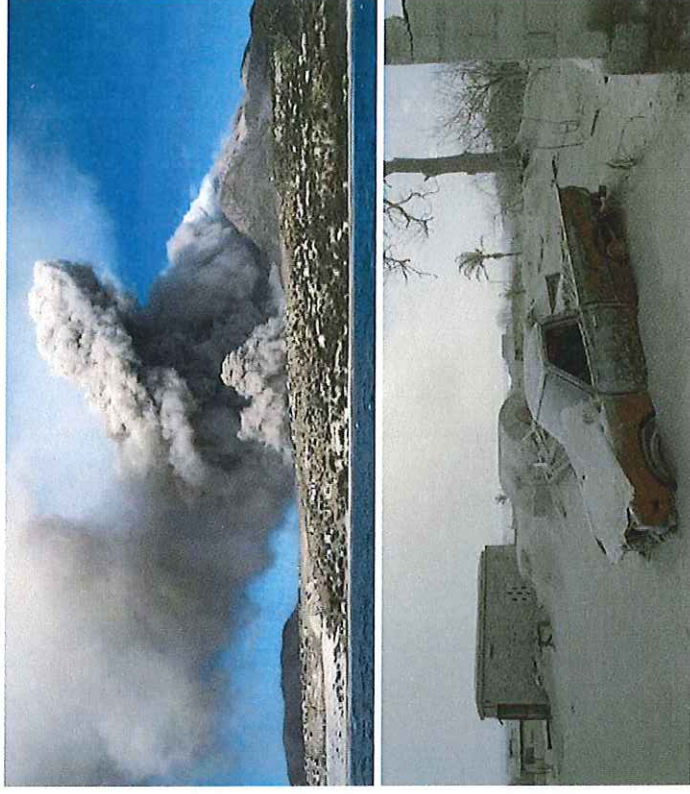
Sometimes people leave a town after they run out of a **resource**. In 1908, a **diamond** was found in a desert in Africa. Soon after, a new town was born. Everyone left when the diamonds became hard to find.

As shown on the map above, empty towns are found around the world. Imagine what life was like for the people who lived in these places. Why do people leave these towns?



Penguins, seals, and other animals now live on the island.

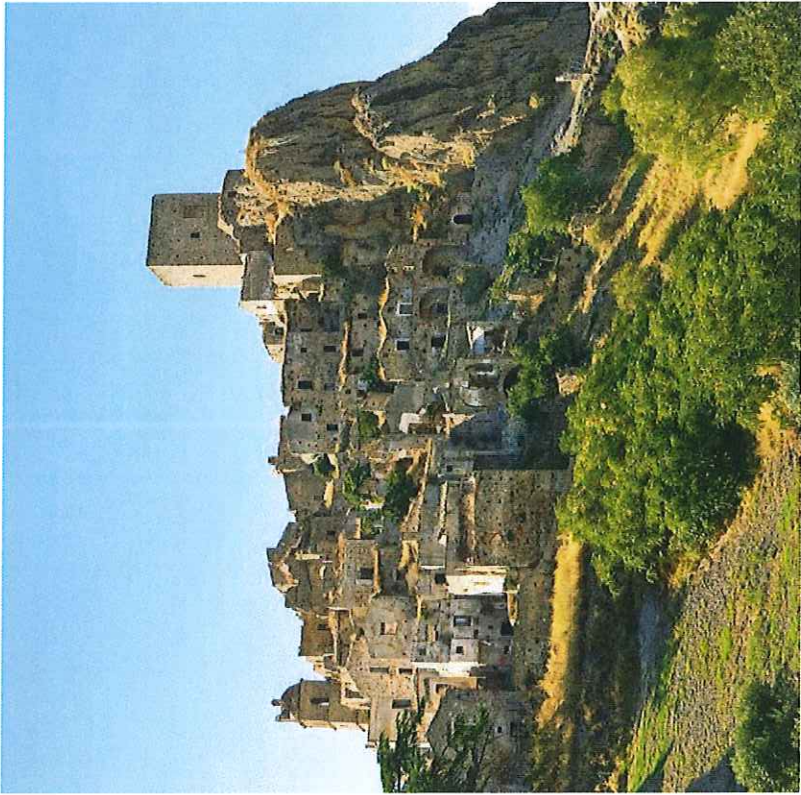
In the 1900s, many people hunted whales around this island. Whales became harder to find over time. Then people stopped hunting whales. People left the town. Old buildings and boats are still there.



Eruptions still happen on the island (top). Many areas are now covered in ash (bottom).

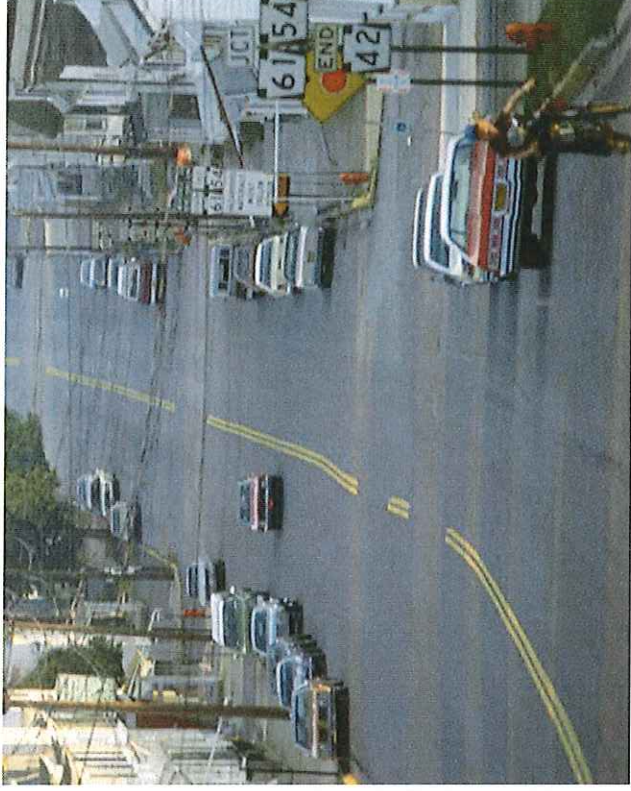
Forces of Nature

Some places become ghost towns because of natural events. In 1995, a volcano **erupted** on this Caribbean island. The capital city was almost destroyed. Over half the people who lived on the island have left. The volcano is still active today.



This amazing, empty village has been used in a few movies.

A ghost town in Italy sits on a tall cliff. People in the village left because of earthquakes and **landslides**. In the 1960s and 1970s, landslides almost destroyed the whole village. The people who still lived there moved away.

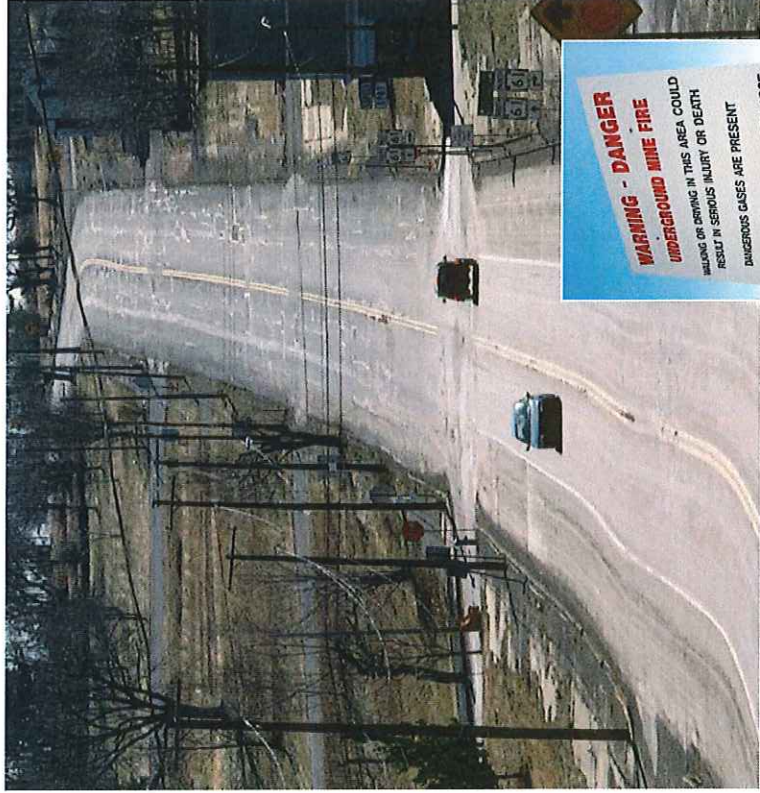


In 1983, people still lived in the Pennsylvania town. The main street looked the same as before the fire.

Deadly Land

People leave some places after the land turns deadly. A town in Pennsylvania is almost completely empty. One day in 1962, the town dump was set on fire to clean up for a holiday. The fire spread into the old mines below the dump, and no one could stop it.

After many years, the fire started to burn under the town. Deadly gas went into people's homes, and holes opened up in the ground. Almost everyone left. The fire will burn for a long time.



By 2000, the town's main street looked very different. Most people had moved away and many of the town's buildings were gone.



This area of the town is still filled with radiation. People cannot go there.

Water can be as deadly as fire. A large earthquake hit off the coast of Japan in March 2011. The earthquake caused huge waves that hit a nuclear power plant. Harmful radiation filled the air. Thousands of people had to move away. No one knows when—or if—anyone can go back.



Chernobyl Disaster

Japan isn't the only country with a ghost town caused by a nuclear accident. A city in Ukraine was home to the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant's workers and their families. People left the city after a deadly nuclear accident in 1986.



This group of islands is now home to about 680,000 seabirds.

A Hard Way of Life

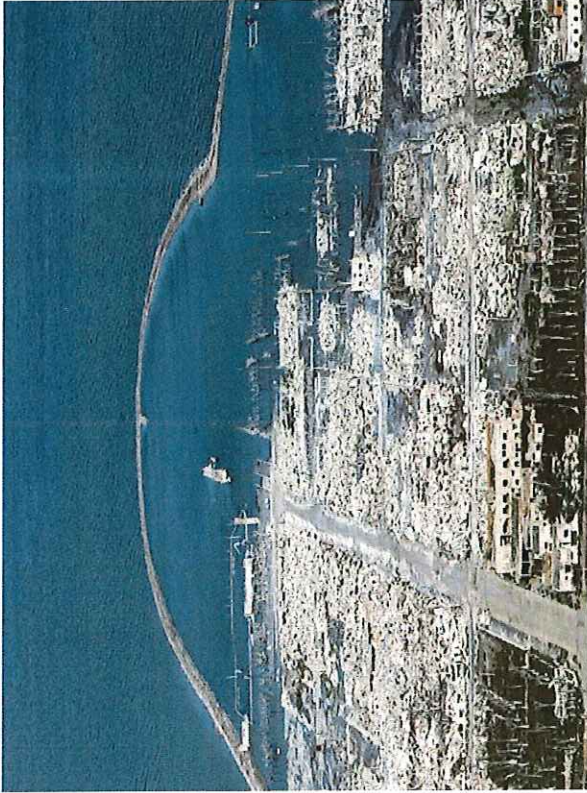
People leave some places because they are too hard to get to. In this group of small islands, people couldn't grow enough food or heat their homes. Young people moved away. Others died because of poor health or old age. The last people moved away in 1930.



This city is still being built, even though no one is moving there.

A Brand-New Ghost Town

Most ghost towns are not empty from the start. People found coal in an area of China in the early 2000s. A city was built nearby, and people were expected to move there. The new city has always been empty. It is the world's largest ghost town.



After a bad storm and a flood, a town in Argentina was underwater for years. It is now a ghost town.

Empty Places

Ghost towns can be old or new, and they are created in many different ways. However, they all have one thing in common: they are lonely places with secrets to share.

Think About It

Think about cities and towns you have lived in or visited. Hundreds of years from now, some of these places may be ghost towns. What might happen to make people leave?

Glossary

- diamond** (*n.*) a rare, precious stone that is prized for its hardness and beauty (p. 6)
- erupted** (*v.*) shot out material such as rock, lava, and ash from an active volcano (p. 8)
- landslides** (*n.*) moving masses of soil and rock that flow down slopes (p. 9)
- nuclear power plant** (*n.*) a building or group of buildings that use atomic energy to make electricity for an area or region (p. 12)
- radiation** (*n.*) a dangerous and powerful form of energy (p. 12)
- resource** (*n.*) a supply of something valuable or very useful (p. 6)

Quick Check continued on following page

1. Which of the following is not a reason for people to leave a town?
 - (A) running out of resources
 - (B) no longer finding work
 - (C) natural disasters
 - (D) too many resources
2. What do all ghost towns have in common?
 - (A) They are filled with animals.
 - (B) They are lonely places.
 - (C) They are dangerous for people.
 - (D) They are too cold to survive.
3. What is the main idea of this book?
 - (A) Ghost towns are empty places where people once lived.
 - (B) Ghost towns are haunted places with many ghosts.
 - (C) Ghost towns are places with many people and animals.
 - (D) Ghost towns are old places that have been empty for centuries.
4. What caused people to leave a town in an African desert?
 - (A) Whales became hard to find.
 - (B) Gold became hard to find.
 - (C) Diamonds became hard to find.
 - (D) Silver became hard to find.
5. What is a resource?
 - (A) a rare, precious stone that is prized for its beauty
 - (B) a dangerous and powerful type of energy
 - (C) a distant or isolated place
 - (D) a supply of something valuable or very useful
6. Which of these events happened first in the history of a town in Japan?
 - (A) Harmful radiation filled the air.
 - (B) Huge waves hit a nuclear power plant.
 - (C) Thousands of people had to move away.
 - (D) A large earthquake occurred off the coast of Japan.

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Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

Name _____

Date _____

Quick Check

Ghost Towns

Name _____

Date _____

7. What caused a town in Argentina to become a ghost town?
- (A) a huge flood
 - (B) an earthquake
 - (C) a fire
 - (D) a volcanic eruption
8. Which of the following is a fact about ghost towns?
- (A) They are all created the same way.
 - (B) They are all created by natural disasters.
 - (C) They are created in many different ways.
 - (D) They are all spooky and haunted by ghosts.
9. What caused a village in Italy to become a ghost town?
- (A) a drought
 - (B) earthquakes and landslides
 - (C) an underground fire
 - (D) a loss of gold

10. Read this sentence: *In 1908, a diamond was found in a desert in Africa. What is a diamond?*
- (A) a rare and precious stone
 - (B) a supply of something valuable
 - (C) a large, destructive ocean wave
 - (D) a new place for people to live
11. **Extended Response:** Choose two ghost towns from the book. Do you think they will ever become regular towns again? Why or why not? Give specific examples to support your answer.

Name _____



By Thursday, the students at Franklin School had collected 535 coupons for a fundraiser. By Friday, their total was 671 coupons. How many coupons did students bring in on Friday? Draw a strip diagram and then solve the problem.

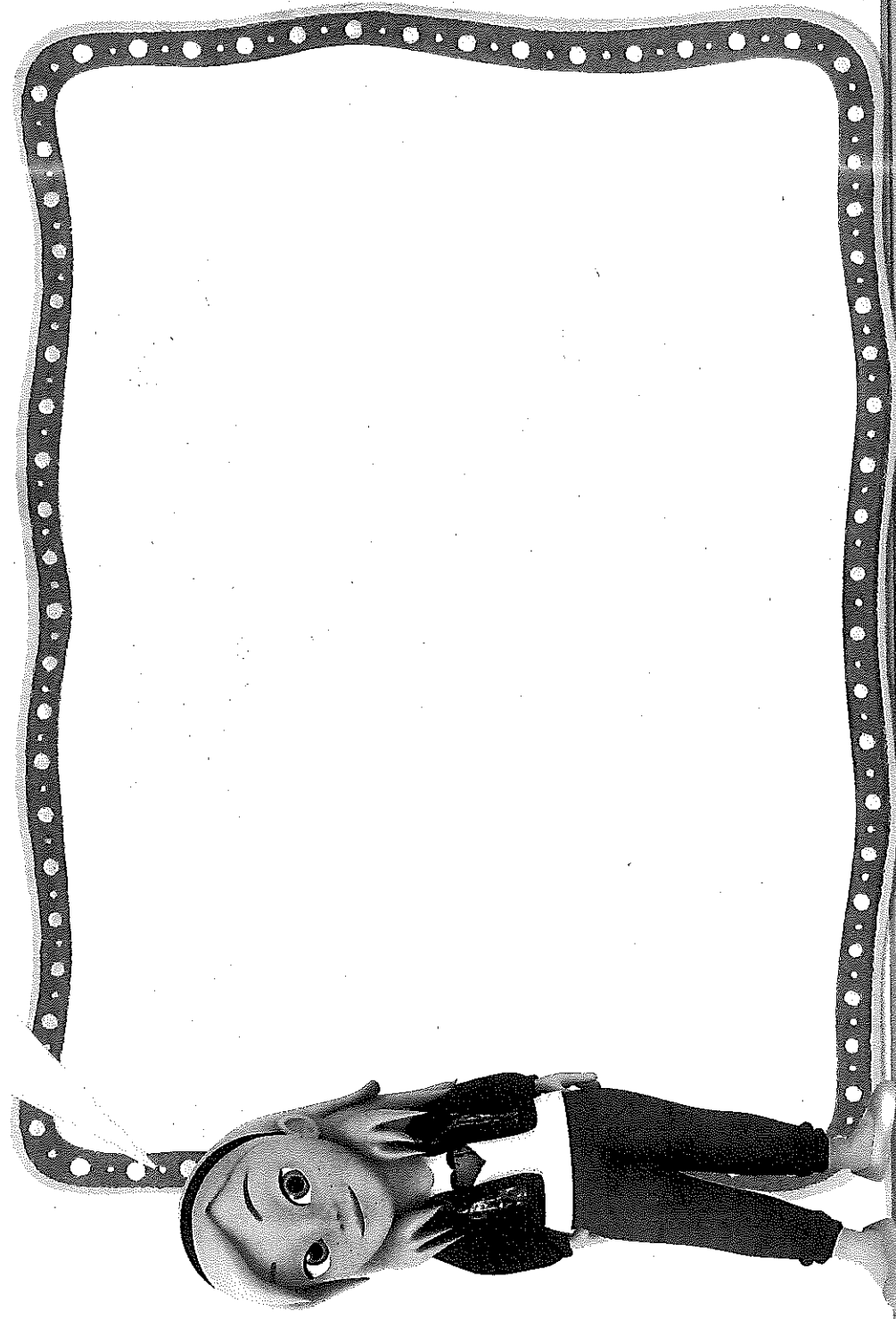
Lesson 11-5

Missing Numbers in 3-Digit Addition and Subtraction Problems

TEKS 2.7C Represent and solve addition and subtraction word problems where unknowns may be any one of the terms in the problem. **Mathematical Process Standards 2.1B, 2.1D, 2.1F.**

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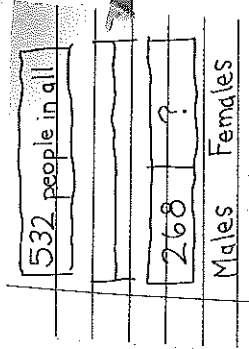
Solve Learn Glossary Check Tools Games



268 males live in this town.
How many females live there?

Welcome to our town!
Population: 532

Draw a strip diagram to show what you know.



You could write two number sentences.

$$268 + ? = 532$$

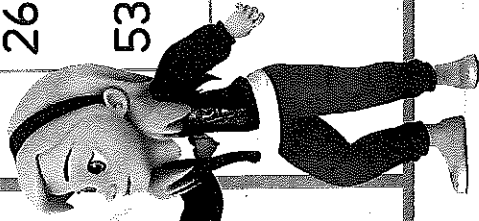
or

$$532 - 268 = ?$$

Solve the subtraction sentence.

$$\begin{array}{r} 412.12 \\ .532 \\ - 268 \\ \hline 264 \end{array}$$

264 females live in the town.



★ Guided Practice

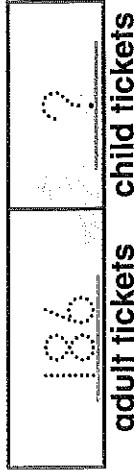
Complete the strip diagram.
Write two number sentences for the diagram.
Choose one of the number sentences to solve.

Do You Understand?

Show Me! How is finding a missing 3-digit number different from finding a missing 2-digit number?

- A movie theater sold 335 tickets in all. The theater sold 186 adult tickets. The rest of the tickets sold were child tickets. How many child tickets did the movie theater sell?

$$335 \text{ tickets in all}$$



$$186 + ? = 335$$

$$\underline{\quad} - \underline{\quad} = ?$$

_____ child tickets

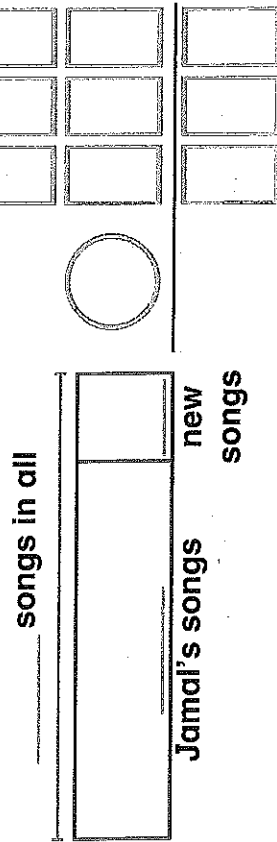
Name _____



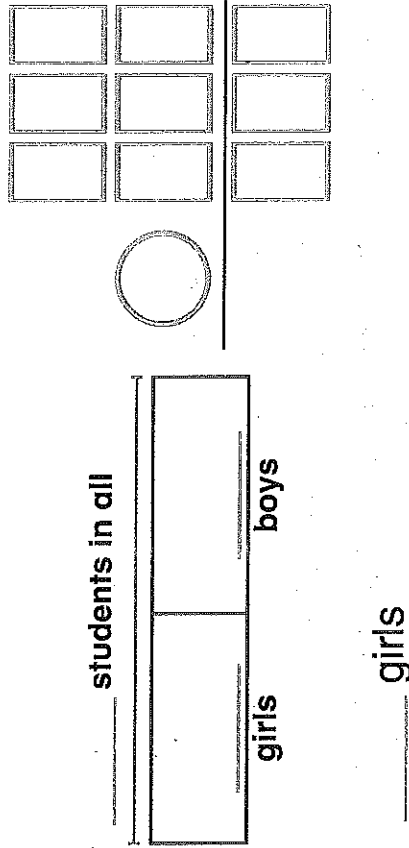
Independent Practice

Complete the strip diagram and write a number sentence to solve each problem.

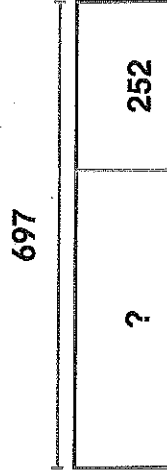
2. Jamal had 426 songs on his music player. He buys some new songs. Now he has 525 songs. How many songs did Jamal buy?



3. There are 207 students in the second grade at Lakeside School. Some of the students are girls. 105 of the students are boys. How many of the students are girls?



4. **Extend Your Thinking** Jack wrote two number sentences for the strip diagram. He says the missing number in both number sentences is the same. Is Jack correct? If not, explain his error and correct it.



? - 252 = 697

697 - 252 = ?