

Maya's Pirate Gold: Subtraction Adventure

Grade 1

math

pirates

Students will subtract within 20 using pirate-themed scenarios involving treasure chests, gold doubloons, ship cannons, and treasure maps.

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Maya finds a treasure chest. It holds 8 gold doubloons. She drops 3 doubloons in the sea. How many doubloons are left? Show your working: $8 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

2. Maya has a treasure map. It shows 7 X marks. Maya visits 4 X marks. How many X marks are left? Show your working: $7 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

3. Maya loads the ship cannon. It has 12 cannon balls. She fires 5 cannon balls. How many cannon balls are left? Circle TRUE or FALSE: Maya has 7 cannon balls left. TRUE / FALSE

4. Maya opens a big treasure chest. She counts 15 gold doubloons inside. She gives 6 doubloons to her crew. How many doubloons does Maya keep? Show your working: $15 - 6 = \underline{\quad}$

5. Fill in the blank. Maya's treasure map has 18 steps to the gold. Maya walks 9 steps. Maya must walk more steps. $18 - 9 = \underline{\quad}$

6. Maya fires the ship cannon 3 times. First shot uses 4 balls. Second shot uses 5 balls. Maya started with 17 cannon balls. How many cannon balls are left now? Show all your working.

7. Maya finds two treasure chests. Chest 1 holds 9 doubloons. Chest 2 holds 8 doubloons. Maya spends 11 doubloons on a new map. How many doubloons does Maya have left? Show all your working.

8. Maya reaches the final X on her treasure map! She digs up 20 gold doubloons. She puts 7 doubloons in chest 1 and 6 doubloons in chest 2. How many doubloons does Maya carry home in her bag? Show all your working. Maya wins — what is her total?

Answer Key: Maya's Pirate Gold: Subtraction Adventure

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Before Q6, pause and ask: 'Maya had 15 doubloons — can anyone remember how many she spent by now?' Students who tracked the running total across questions show strong number-sense development. Use this as a quick formative check.

1. Maya finds a treasure chest. It holds 8 gold doubloons. She drops 3 doubloons in the sea. How many doubloons are left? Show your working: $8 - 3 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q1: 8 doubloons - 3 dropped = 5 doubloons left. Maya has 5 gold doubloons.

2. Maya has a treasure map. It shows 7 X marks. Maya visits 4 X marks. How many X marks are left? Show your working: $7 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q2: 7 X marks - 4 visited = 3 X marks left. Maya has 3 X marks to go.

3. Maya loads the ship cannon. It has 12 cannon balls. She fires 5 cannon balls. How many cannon balls are left? Circle TRUE or FALSE: Maya has 7 cannon balls left. TRUE / FALSE

Answer: Q3: 12 cannon balls - 5 fired = 7 cannon balls left. TRUE — Maya has 7 cannon balls.

4. Maya opens a big treasure chest. She counts 15 gold doubloons inside. She gives 6 doubloons to her crew. How many doubloons does Maya keep? Show your working: $15 - 6 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q4: 15 doubloons - 6 given to crew = 9 doubloons. Maya keeps 9 gold doubloons.

5. Fill in the blank. Maya's treasure map has 18 steps to the gold. Maya walks 9 steps. Maya must walk $\underline{\quad}$ more steps. $18 - 9 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q5: 18 steps - 9 steps walked = 9 steps left. Maya must walk 9 more steps.

6. Maya fires the ship cannon 3 times. First shot uses 4 balls. Second shot uses 5 balls. Maya started with 17 cannon balls. How many cannon balls are left now? Show all your working.

Answer: Q6: Step 1 — 4 balls + 5 balls = 9 balls fired in total. Step 2 — 17 cannon balls - 9 fired = 8 cannon balls left. Maya has 8 cannon balls.

7. Maya finds two treasure chests. Chest 1 holds 9 doubloons. Chest 2 holds 8 doubloons. Maya spends 11 doubloons on a new map. How many doubloons does Maya have left? Show all your working.

Answer: Q7: Step 1 — 9 doubloons + 8 doubloons = 17 doubloons in total. Step 2 — 17 doubloons - 11 spent = 6 doubloons left. Maya has 6 gold doubloons.

8. Maya reaches the final X on her treasure map! She digs up 20 gold doubloons. She puts 7 doubloons in chest 1 and 6 doubloons in chest 2. How many doubloons does Maya carry home in her bag? Show all your working. Maya wins — what is her total?

Answer: Q8: Step 1 — 7 doubloons + 6 doubloons = 13 doubloons put in chests. Step 2 — 20 doubloons - 13 in chests = 7 doubloons in Maya's bag. Maya carries 7 gold doubloons home. Maya found all the treasure!

