Multi-step Subtraction and Addition

SEA CREATURES WORD PROBLEMS



Directions: Solve each multi-step problem by subtracting first and then adding.

1. There were twenty-nine sea turtles that decided to go for a swim. Seventeen turtles got tired and swam home, and nineteen turtles joined the others to complete the swim. How many turtles completed the swim?

Answer: 31 turtles

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & 29 & 12 \\
 & 17 & +19 \\
\hline
 & 12 & 31
\end{array}$$

2. Julie the Jellyfish had forty-five pieces of sea glass. If she gave away six of them, but then bought twenty more, how many would she have total?

Answer: 59 pieces

$$\begin{array}{r}
 45 \\
 -6 \\
 \hline
 39 \\
 \hline
 59 \\
 \end{array}$$



3. Sally the Seahorse had twenty-three cousins that lived in the reef. Seven cousins moved away and then nine more moved to the reef. How many cousins live at the reef now?

Answer: 25 cousins

$$\frac{23}{-7}$$
 $\frac{16}{16}$ $\frac{+9}{25}$

4. The coral reef had thirty-one pieces of fan coral. Nine pieces broke off when a boat rode over the reef. A year later, seventeen new pieces appeared. How many pieces of fan coral does the reef have now?

Answer: 39 pieces

$$\frac{31}{-9}$$
 $\frac{22}{17}$ $\frac{22}{39}$

5. Sheldon the Shrimp played a game with his brother. He earned twenty-two points in the first round and then lost thirteen points in round two. In the final round, he earned nineteen points. What was his final score in the game?

Answer: 28 points

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & 22 & 19 \\
 & -13 & +9 \\
\hline
 & 9 & 28
\end{array}$$

