



Pre-Algebra Practice

Read each question and write your answer in algebraic form.



ANSWERS

Ex. There are a total of 10 chocolate kisses. If you started with 3 chocolate kisses, how many did you have to add to get the total?

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Let } x \text{ be the variable: } & 3 + x = 10 \\ \text{Subtract 3 from both sides: } & 3 + x - 3 = 10 - 3 \\ & x + 3 - 3 = 10 - 3 \\ & x = 7\end{aligned}$$

1. Johnny went trick-or-treating and is trying to figure out how many sugar sticks he got in his last hour. He has a total of 12 and he knows he got 5 during his first hour. How many did he get in the last hour?

$$\begin{aligned}12 &= 5 + x \\ 12 - 5 &= 5 - 5 + x \\ 7 &= x\end{aligned}$$

2. After trick-or-treating, Hillary's dad tells her to put aside a total of 25 pieces of candy, consisting of butterscotch, peanut butter cups and lollipops. She puts 10 butterscotch and 7 peanut butter cups to the side. How many lollipops does she set aside?

$$\begin{aligned}25 &= 10 + 7 + x \\ 25 &= 17 + x \\ 25 - 17 &= 17 - 17 + x \\ 8 &= x\end{aligned}$$

3. Jack's little brother keeps swiping his candy. He knows he had 56 pieces. He counts 32 now. How many pieces did his brother take?

$$\begin{aligned}56 &= 32 + x \\ 56 - 32 &= 32 - 32 + x \\ 24 &= x\end{aligned}$$