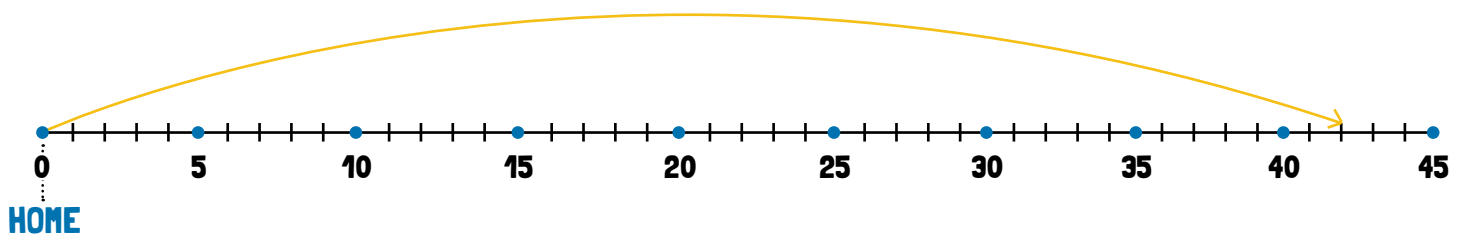# USING A NUMBER LINE TO SOLVE METRIC MEASUREMENT PROBLEMS *Subtraction*
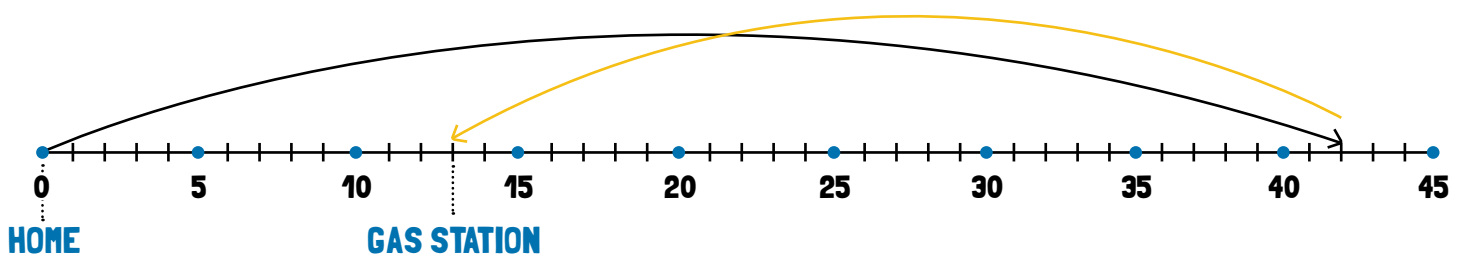
A number line is a good tool to use when solving problems about subtracting length. Read the problem below and follow the steps to solve the problem using the number line.

The Miller family left home and traveled 42 kilometers down the highway when Mr. Miller realized he left his credit card at the gas station they stopped at earlier. They traveled back 29 kilometers to get Mr. Miller's credit card. How many kilometers away is the Miller's home when they reach the gas station?


```
0    5    10    15    20    25    30    35    40    45
HOME
```

To solve the problem using the number line, you start at zero (the Miller's home) and draw an arrow to show the 42 km that the Millers traveled when they left home.

```
0    5    10    15    20    25    30    35    40    45
HOME      GAS STATION
```

Next, count back 29 spaces to get the Millers to the gas station. From this step, you can see how far the Millers are from home.

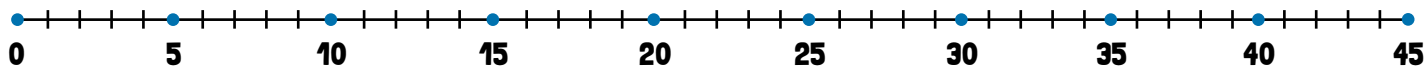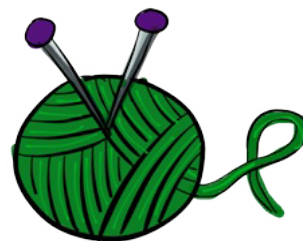The number sentence for this problem is **42 km - 29 km = 13 km**

The Millers are 13 km from their home.

Now, you try. Read the problems and use the number lines to help you solve them.

1 Krista cut a length of 35 cm of yarn to complete an art project. She realized she had too much and cut off 16 cm. How much yarn does Krista have left?
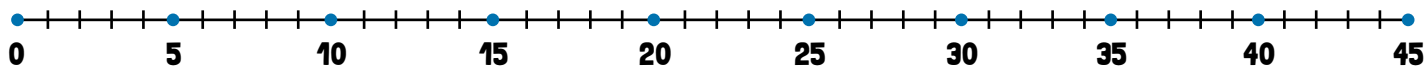
0   5   10   15   20   25   30   35   40   45

Number sentence

Krista's piece of yarn is [ ] cm long.

2 Baron left Misha's house and walked 43 meters to Todd's house. When he left Todd's house he walked 25 meters back toward Misha's to get to his own house. How far is Baron's house from Misha's house?

0   5   10   15   20   25   30   35   40   45

Number sentence

Baron's house is [ ] meters from Misha's house.