

## Subtraction (7) – vertical method

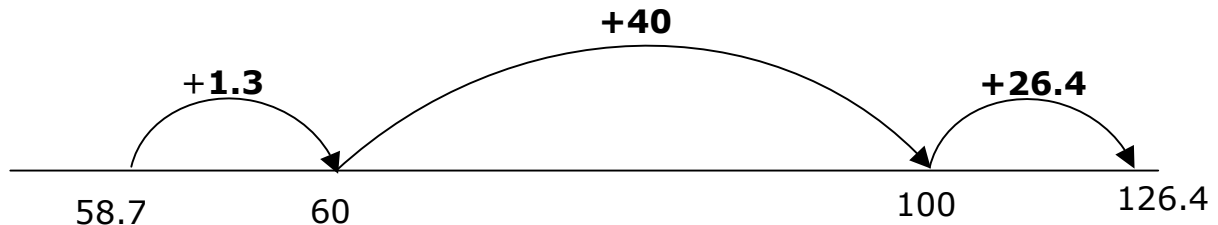
(numbers with 1 decimal place)

Today your child's homework involves calculating/solving problems, using subtraction.

**Example: A runners' total time for the 800m was 126.4 seconds. If the first 400m took 58.7 seconds, how long did the second 400m take?**

So we need  $126.4 - 58.7$  to find the difference between the total time and the first lap time.

This can be represented on a number line as shown below.



An alternative way is to record the 'jumps' vertically:

$$126.4 - 58.7$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 1.3 \quad (60) \\
 40.0 \quad (100) \\
 26.4 \quad (126.4) \\
 \hline
 67.7
 \end{array}$$

We then add the 'jumps' mentally, or using vertical addition, to give us a difference of 67.7 ( $40 + 26.4 + 1.3$ ).

**The second 400m took 67.7 seconds.**