MEI®
Mathematics Education Innovation

Take 5 (Keys)

CALCULATOR CRUNCH

MEI® Mathematics Education Innovation

Choose 3 digit keys and 2 operation keys e.g.

`5` `6` `8` `+` `-`

You can always use the = key
Can you make all the numbers from 1 – 20 using only these keys?
You can use the keys as often as you want each time.

I used these keys:

Things to think about…
Can you use the difference between the numbers to help?
Can the way you made a number before help you this time?
Extra challenge
What if you 'Take 4' and use 2 digits and 2 operations?

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

Aim of the game

To create calculations to equal all the numbers from 1 to 20 but using only 3 digit keys and 2 operation keys. You can always use the equals key!

How to play

Choose three numbers to use and 2 operation keys ($+$, $-$, $\times$ or $\div$).

Using just those keys, create calculations that equal the numbers from 1 to 20.

e.g. using 5, 6, 8, $+$ and $-$ you could make the answers 1, 2 and 3 like this:

$6 - 5 = 1$
$8 - 6 = 2$
$8 - 5 = 3$

What will you do to get the answer 4? Could you use $+$ and $-$ in the same calculation?

$6 + 8 - 5 = \dots?$

You could draw a table to record your calculations

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

Using the calculator?

Does it matter which order you enter the calculations?

Does $6 + 8 - 5 =$ give the same answer as $8 - 5 + 6 = ?$

What if you chose × and ÷ as your operation keys?

Does the order you enter the calculation matter?

Top Tip

In year 6, children may learn about BODMAS or BIDMAS which helps them to remember the order of operations

B – brackets

O/I – indices (powers)

D and M – division and multiplication

A and S – addition and subtraction