Autumn Equations

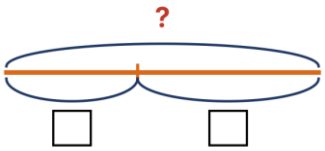
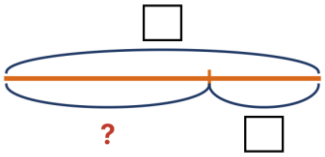
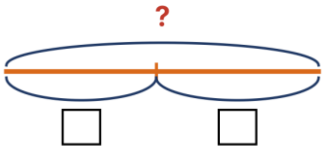
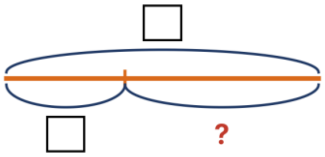
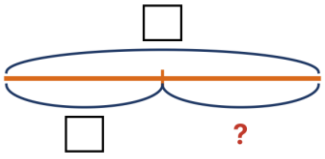
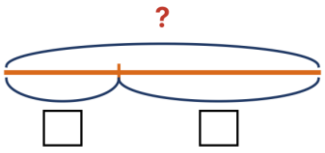
Find the biggest number — the other two add up to it

The rule: every + or − equation has three numbers. The two smaller numbers add up to the biggest one.

1. Circle the biggest number (it can be the ?). **2.** If the ? is NOT the biggest: biggest − other = ? **3.** If the ? IS the biggest: add the other two.

1. Picture the equation

Read the story and its equation. In the model, the biggest number goes on top and the two smaller numbers go underneath. Write the numbers in the boxes — the ? is already in its place. Then find the ?.

Story and equation	Model: write the numbers in the boxes
Max found 7 acorns and Nadia found 10. How many acorns do they have together? **7 + 10 = ?** ? = _____	
There were 18 pumpkins on the cart. Some were sold. Now 6 are left. How many were sold? **18 − ? = 6** ? = _____	
A squirrel ate 12 of its nuts. It still has 13 left. How many nuts did it have at first? **? − 12 = 13** ? = _____	
Ben had 9 chestnuts. He found some more. Now he has 25. How many did he find? **9 + ? = 25** ? = _____	
Lena had 30 maple leaves. The wind blew 14 away. How many does she have now? **30 − 14 = ?** ? = _____	
A jay hid some acorns. It ate 8 and has 15 left. How many did it hide? **? − 8 = 15** ? = _____	

2. Circle the biggest — and answer the riddle

What did the tree say when autumn came?

You do not need to solve these! Just circle the biggest number in each equation and find it in the code table. Write its letter. If the biggest number is the ?, write X — the X marks a space between words.

1. 23 – ? = 9 **Letter: _____**	**2. ? + 7 = 15** **Letter: _____**	**3. 18 – ? = 4** **Letter: _____**	**4. 11 + ? = 30** **Letter: _____**
5. ? – 6 = 12 **Letter: _____**	**6. 40 – ? = 25** **Letter: _____**	**7. ? + 14 = 15** **Letter: _____**	**8. ? – 20 = 3** **Letter: _____**
9. ? + 5 = 18 **Letter: _____**	**10. 9 + ? = 23** **Letter: _____**	**11. 27 – ? = 13** **Letter: _____**	**12. ? + 9 = 31** **Letter: _____**
13. 15 – ? = 7 **Letter: _____**			

?	9	12	15	18	20	23	25	27	30	31	33	40
X	T	S	E	A	R	L	H	O	F	N	B	M

The tree said:

One more: What is a tree's favourite drink?

1. ? + 12 = 20 **Letter: _____**	**2. 27 – ? = 11** **Letter: _____**	**3. 13 + ? = 27** **Letter: _____**	**4. 9 – ? = 2** **Letter: _____**
5. ? – 4 = 10 **Letter: _____**	**6. 33 – ? = 17** **Letter: _____**	**7. ? + 6 = 15** **Letter: _____**	**8. 15 – ? = 8** **Letter: _____**
9. 5 + ? = 20 **Letter: _____**			

The answer (use the same code table):

3. Solve and read the animal

Now solve! For each equation: circle the biggest number, solve, and write the answer. Then find your answer in the code table and write its letter. Read the letters 1 to 8.

1. ? + 8 = 15 **? = _____ Letter: _____**	**2. 17 – ? = 9** **? = _____ Letter: _____**
3. ? – 4 = 14 **? = _____ Letter: _____**	**4. 9 + ? = 21** **? = _____ Letter: _____**
5. ? – 12 = 20 **? = _____ Letter: _____**	**6. 46 – ? = 19** **? = _____ Letter: _____**
7. ? + 23 = 48 **? = _____ Letter: _____**	**8. 55 – ? = 25** **? = _____ Letter: _____**

7	8	9	12	16	18	20	25	27	30	32	35
C	H	A	P	E	I	T	N	U	K	M	S

This striped animal stuffs acorns into its cheeks:

Answer Key (for the teacher)

1. 7 + 10 = ? → 17 (7 and 10 underneath). 18 − ? = 6 → 12 (18 on top, 6 in a part). ? − 12 = 13 → 25 (? on top). 9 + ? = 25 → 16 (25 on top, 9 in a part). 30 − 14 = ? → 16 (30 on top, 14 in a part). ? − 8 = 15 → 23 (? on top). Which part a known number goes in does not matter.

2. Biggest numbers: 23 L, 15 E, 18 A, 30 F, ? X, 40 M, 15 E, ? X, 18 A, 23 L, 27 O, 31 N, 15 E → LEAF ME ALONE. Riddle 2: 20 R, 27 O, 27 O, 9 T, ? X, 33 B, 15 E, 15 E, 20 R → ROOT BEER.

3. 7 C, 8 H, 18 I, 12 P, 32 M, 27 U, 25 N, 30 K → CHIPMUNK.