

Adult-led activities

EYFS Aspect of learning

- Numbers

Busy Ant Maths F Topic

- Adding and subtracting

40-60+ months Early years outcome

- In practical activities and discussion, beginning to use the vocabulary involved in subtracting

Activity 2: Five cheeky monkeys or

Objective

- Subtract within 5

Resources

Five Cheeky Monkeys - see page 390 in the Rhymes and Songs section

What to do

- Display: the Tree tool showing five monkeys in one tree.
- Sing *Five Cheeky Monkeys* together with the class. At the appropriate place in the song, encourage the children to make an alligator 'snap' with their arms, while you remove one monkey from the tree.
- Put all five monkeys back in the tree and ask: **How many monkeys are in the tree?** Ask a few children and then check by counting together.
- Say: **The alligator comes close and two monkeys run away!** Remove two monkeys from the board. Ask: **How many monkeys are left?**
- Choose a child to answer (3) and confirm that there are three monkeys left. Say: **There were five monkeys and two ran away. So that leaves three monkeys in the tree. Five take away two leaves three.**
- Position four monkeys in the tree and ask the children to count them. Say: **There are four monkeys in the tree. Alligator comes close and one monkey runs away.** Ask: **How many are left? Hold up the same number of fingers to show me.**
- Ask the children to answer (3) and ask: **How many monkeys were there to start? (4) How many monkeys ran away? (1) How many monkeys are left? (3)** Say: **Four take away one leaves three.**
- Continue in this way to illustrate subtraction facts up to 5, explaining each stage of the calculation as necessary.
- If appropriate, extend beyond five monkeys.

