®THE DAILY **SIGNAL**

6 Steps to Subtract 2 Numbers: Common Core Homework in 1 Photo

Kelsey Lucas / October 02, 2014

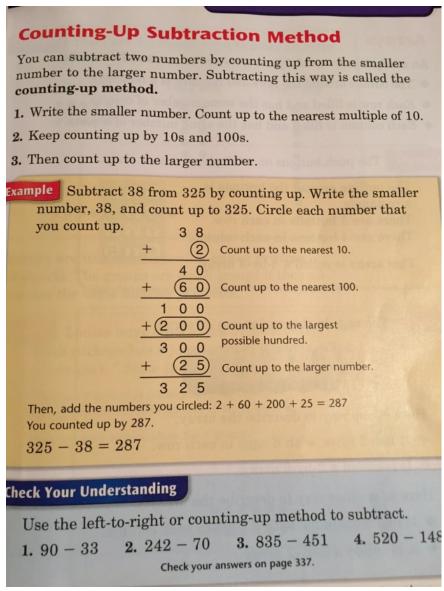


Photo: Erick Erickson via ErickErickson.org

For third-graders learning Common Core math in Georgia, there are four ways to subtract—and only four ways allowed. The picture above is just one of the methods for subtraction under Common Core straight from RedState editor in chief Erick Erickson's third-grade daughter's math book.

1 of 2 09/30/2015 05:24 PM

Missing from the four methods: borrowing and carrying numbers. You know, the old-fashioned-taught-the-same-way-for-decades-granny-method-not-approved-by-bureaucrats subtraction.

According to this third-grade textbook, students must take about six steps (at minimum, depending how you count) to subtract just two numbers. And if you don't show your work, circle the right numbers and "count up" correctly, you haven't proven that you've mastered the "why" of the problem.

In a previous post where I highlighted two "Homework Helper" videos a local news station broadcast because parents were struggling with their children's Common Core homework, it's clear memorization is out—explaining the "why" is in.

I'd love to see some more techniques for problems formerly referred to as "simple" math. Please leave your own pictures of Common Core homework in the comments and share this absurdity with your friends.

>>> It Takes a Teacher 56 Seconds to Explain How to Add 9 Plus 6

2 of 2 09/30/2015 05:24 PM