
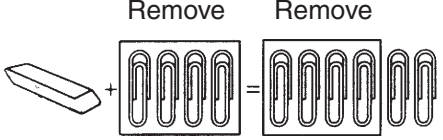
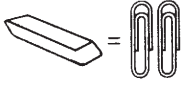


EQUATIONS



An **equation** is a number sentence with an equal mark in it. You can model equations using paper clips and an eraser. Let the eraser represent the variable. Use the paper clips to represent the known numbers.

For this exercise you will need ten paper clips and one eraser. Place the paper clips and eraser on your desk top to look like the figure below. Make and cut “+” and “=” signs out of the paper.

Step	Model	Equation
Step 1 Set up the equation.	 <p>represents the variable represents the known represents the known</p>	$x + 4 = 6$
Step 2 Isolate the variable on one side. You must subtract the same number from both the left and the right sides.	 <p><i>Remove 4 paper clips from both the left and right sides. Remove means subtract.</i></p>	$x + 4 - 4 = 6 - 4$ $x + 0 = 2$
Step 3 Find the solution.	 <p>$x = 2$</p>	$x = 2$

Model the equation. Use an eraser for the variable and paper clips for the known numbers. Solve.

1. $b + 5 = 9$ $b = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

2. $n + 3 = 7$ $n = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

3. $z + 9 = 15$ $z = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

4. $a + 1 = 4$ $a = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Equations

Answer Key

1. 4
2. 4
3. 6
4. 3

