



Subtraction scramble

Year

3

Focus

Using knowledge of place value to carry out subtractions

What's needed

x4 Home Mats

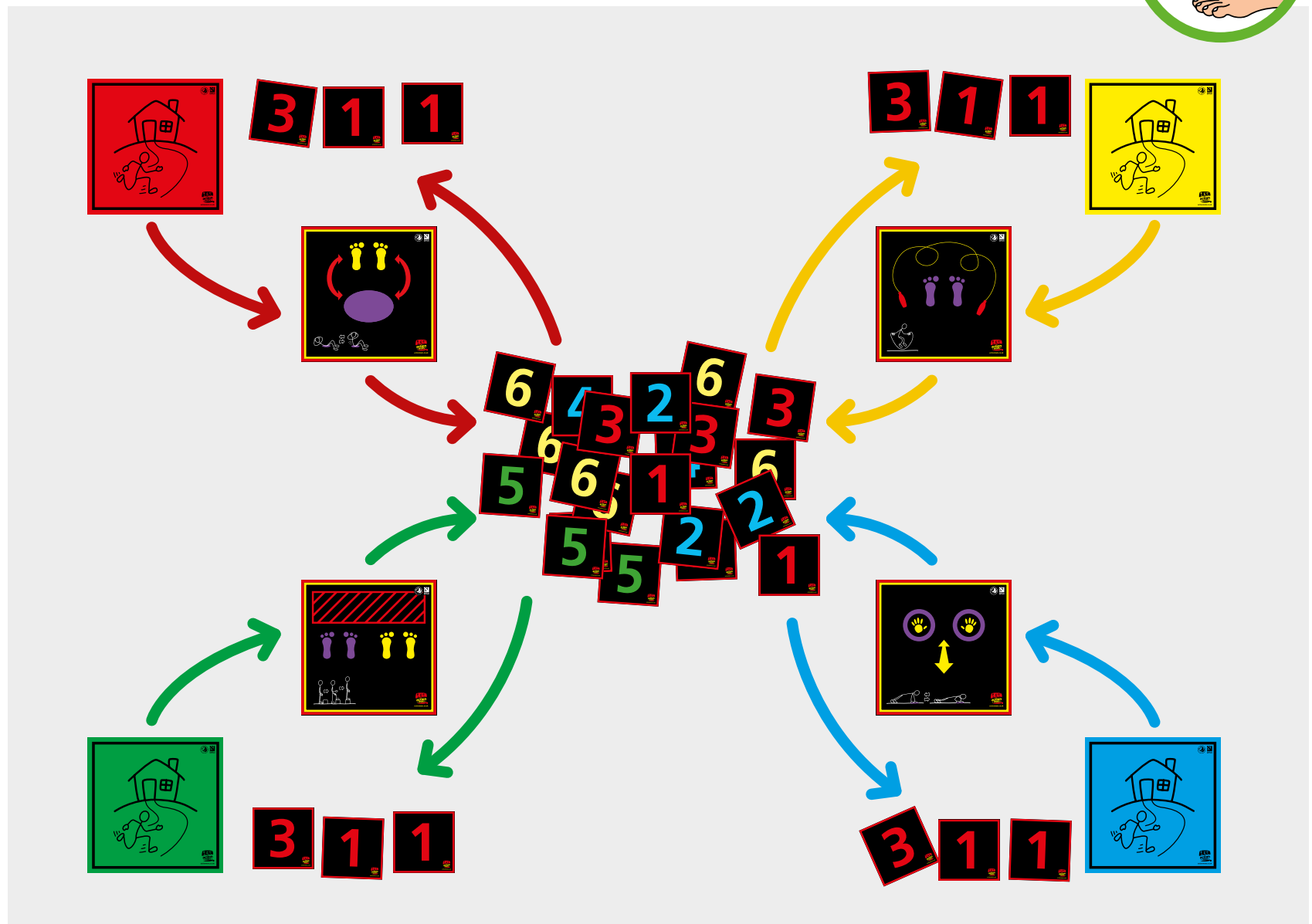
Action Mats required:

four or more Action Mats (as many as needed for the class)

Maths mats required:

Single digit mats

3 5 2 - 4 1





Warm Up

Place value

Use the maths mats to make a visual three-digit number (ask three students to pick digits at random), first establish place value knowledge by asking how many hundreds, students must do this many star jumps (or any other chosen activity), repeat with how many tens? How many ones?



Some students may be able to move on to four digit numbers

Main task

Subtraction scramble

Students line up behind their home mat in groups of three.

The teacher writes a subtraction that all students can see (if you have enough maths mats use these to show the equation). Ensure that there is no exchange needed to complete the subtraction (e.g., $352 - 41$). Students work together to agree on an answer.

The first group member needs to collect the digit for the hundreds column, they must stop at the action mat on the way and carry out this number of actions on their way to the number mat, collect the correct digit to place in the hundreds column, and on the way back carry out the correct number of actions again.

The second group member does the same to collect the digit for the tens column, carrying out this number of actions on their way there and back, and the third student does the same with the ones column.

When they have all three digits and have made the correct answer they sit down behind their home mat.



For more able students give them subtractions that involve exchange (e.g. $352 - 46$)