

**Step 1**

Write the numbers, lining up the decimal points.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5.92 \\ - 4.37 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Which digits might it be necessary to regroup when subtracting?
[The 9 tenths and the 2 hundredths.]

Step 2

Subtract the hundredths. Regroup if needed.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5.92 \\ - 4.37 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$$

How is the regrouping shown in Step 2?
[9 tenths and 2 hundredths becomes 8 tenths and 12 hundredths.]

Step 3

Subtract the tenths and ones. Bring down the decimal point.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5.92 \\ - 4.37 \\ \hline 1.55 \end{array}$$

The difference is reasonable since the estimate was 2.
The difference in the wingspans is 1.55 cm.

Why do you need to bring down the decimal point in the answer?
[The answer is 1.55, not 155.]

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Step 2

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$$\begin{array}{r} 5.92 \\ - 4.37 \\ \hline 5 \end{array}$$

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Subtract the tenths and ones. Bring down the decimal point.

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3 Independent Practice

Remind students that if two decimals do not have the same number of decimal places, students should annex extra right-hand zeros to make the number of decimal places the same.

Problem Solving**Independent Practice**

In 12 through 23, find each difference.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 12. $7.8 - 4.9 = 2.9$ | 13. $\$20.60 - \$14.35 = \$6.25$ | 14. $43.905 - 7.526 = 36.379$ | 15. $65.29 - 28.038 = 37.252$ |
| 16. $15.03 - 4.121 = 10.909$ | 17. $13.9 - 3.8 = 10.1$ | 18. $65.18 - 12.005 = 53.175$ | 19. $\$52.02 - \$0.83 = \$51.19$ |
| 20. $7.094 - 3.657 = 3.437$ | 21. $34.49 - 12.619 = 21.871$ | 22. $85.22 - 43.548 = 41.672$ | 23. $\$10.05 - \$4.50 = \$5.55$ |

Problem Solving

24. **Writing to Explain** Why is it necessary to line up decimal points when subtracting decimals?
See margin.
25. **Reasonableness** Sue subtracted 2.9 from 20.9 and got 1.8. Explain why this is not reasonable.
See margin.
26. The pyramid of Khafre measured 143.5 meters high. The pyramid of Menkaure measured 65.5 meters high. What is the difference in the heights of these two pyramids?
- A 68.8 meters
B 69.3 meters
C 78 meters
D 212.3 meters
27. An average person's upper leg bone measures 19.88 in. and the lower leg bone measures 16.94 in. How much longer is the upper leg bone than the lower leg bone?
2.94 in.



Lesson 2-7

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Exercise	Content
24	Communicate Math Understanding Subtracting Decimals
25	Communicate Math Understanding Estimation
26	Subtraction ($143.5 - 65.5$)
27	Subtraction ($19.88 - 16.94$)

Students use underlying processes and mathematical tools for Exercises 24–27. Remind students to check for reasonableness when solving each problem.

Exercise 26

Test-Taking Tip: Make a Plan Remind students how to choose an operation. *Which operation would words like “difference in the heights” tell you to use?* [Subtraction]

Early Finishers Write a word problem that involves money represented as decimals and that can be solved by subtracting. Ask another student in the class to try and solve the problem.

24. When you line up decimal points you are able to put digits in the correct places.

25. A good estimate is $21 - 3 = 18$, and 1.8 is not close to the estimate.