Lesson 18: Subtract with Zeroes in the Top Number

**Purpose of Lesson:** You will learn how to subtract with zeroes '0' in the top number.

In a problem such as this you need to borrow from the '9'. Make it one less, '8', then add ten to each zero. Then continue borrowing from each ten until you are able to subtract.

See below:

\[
\begin{array}{cccc}
9 & 9 & 8 & 10 \ 10 \ 10 \\
9 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
- & 7, 5 & 2 & 8 \\
\hline
1, & 4 & 7 & 2
\end{array}
\]

1) You **cannot** subtract the 8 from 0.
2) So, you need to look to the 9 on the left to find a number to borrow from.
3) Take 1 away from the 9 and make it 8.
4) Bring the 1 to the 0 on the right of the number 8 making it a 10 in the hundreds column.
5) Because you still cannot subtract, you need to take 1 from the 10 that you just created making it a 9 in the hundreds column and creating a 10 in the tens column.
6) Because you still cannot subtract, you need to borrow 1 from the 10 making it a 9 in the tens column which will make a 10 in the ones column.
7) Starting to subtract in the ones column, 10-8=2.
8) In the tens column, 9-2=7.
9) In the hundreds column, 9-5=4.
10) In the thousands column, 8-7=1, making your answer 1,472.

Now you try some:

**Take Lesson 18 Quiz 1**