

**Example: Solve 642 - 379 using the partial differences method**

$$642 - 379 = ?$$

Subtract the 100's:  $600 - 300 = 300$   
Use a "+" sign because the bottom number is smaller.

Subtract the 10's:  $40 - 70 = 30$   
Use a "-" sign because the top number is smaller.

Subtract the 1's:  $2 - 9 = 7$   
Use a "-" sign because the top number is smaller.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 642 \\
 - 379 \\
 \hline
 +300 \\
 -30 \\
 -7 \\
 \hline
 263
 \end{array}$$

Total the "partial differences" to find your difference.

$$642 - 379 = 263$$

8 7 6	4 3 7	9 5 2
- 2 7 2	- 2 3 2	- 4 2 3
+ 6 0 0	+ 2 0 0	+ 5 0 0
+ 0 0	+ 0 0	+ 3 0
+ 4	+ 5	- 1
6 0 4	2 0 5	5 2 9

8 2 4	7 0 9	5 0 0
- 1 6 1	- 5 4 4	- 4 8 0
+ 7 0 0	+ 2 0 0	+ 1 0 0
- 4 0	- 4 0	- 8 0
+ 3	+ 5	+ 0
6 6 3	1 6 5	2 0