

## DIVISION

By repeated subtraction

Division can also be taken as a way of **repeated subtraction** i.e. subtracting a same number several times, since division and subtraction are interrelated concepts.

In a division equation;

$$15 \div 3 = 5$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the division equation  $15 \div 3 = 5$ :

- Dividend**: 15 (indicated by a yellow arrow pointing to 15)
- Divisor**: 3 (indicated by a yellow arrow pointing to 3)
- Quotient**: 5 (indicated by a yellow arrow pointing to 5)

For example; **15÷3** can also be solved by 'repeated subtraction'.

### METHOD:

We keep on subtraction 3 from the dividend until we get 0. The number of times 3 is subtracted from the dividend to reach 0 is the quotient i.e. the answer!

$$\text{So, } 15 - 3 = 12 \quad 12 - 3 = 9 \quad 9 - 3 = 6$$

$$6 - 3 = 3 \quad 3 - 3 = 0$$

→ **15 ÷ 3 = 5**

The repeated subtraction equation for  $15 \div 3 = 5$  is  $15 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 = 0$

Similarly, the division equation for  $15 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 - 3 = 0$  is  $15 \div 3 = 5$