



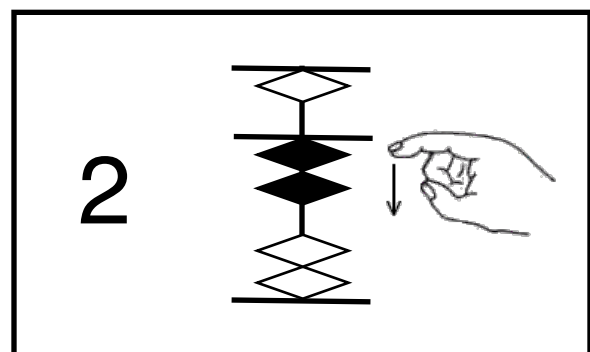
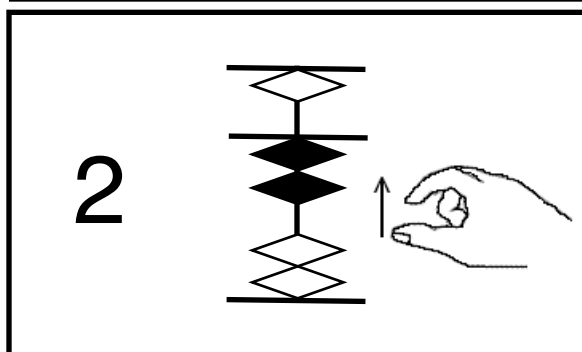
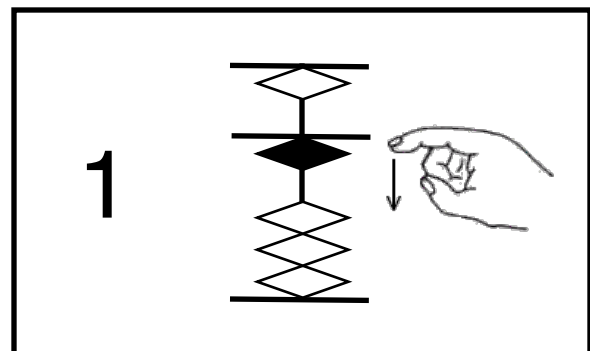
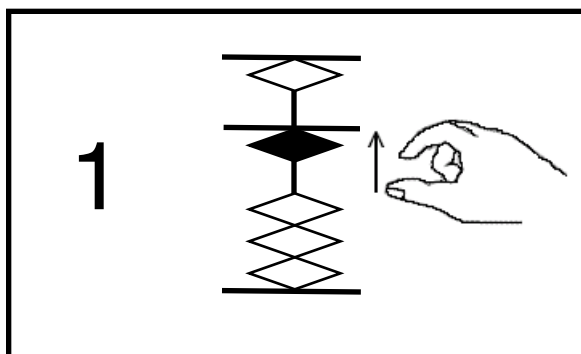
Beetles Lesson #1

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Learning to use the Soroban is both about speed and accuracy. To achieve speed and accuracy we must reduce the complexity of the arithmetics and the resulting finger movements required to execute it. Therefore learning Soroban is also an exercise in mechanization and efficiency. We mechanize problem solving with the use of complementary numbers and reduce bead movements to a few simple procedures using only our thumb and index finger. Therefore, we reduce the mental work load required by transforming the typical process of addition and subtraction into a highly efficient mechanical process using complements. This is why Soroban users can perform mental calculations with great speed and accuracy.

Strictly follow the suggested finger movements to enter and remove the numbers 1-5 on the Soroban. First clear the Soroban so no beads are touching the reckoning bar and then add each number and remove each number with the respective finger movements shown. Building these finger movements now will allow for speed and accuracy as the student learns to solve more complex problems. Sloppy technique will only slow a students progress so practice the movements with a focus on precision. Speed will come later.





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