

Addition and Subtraction of Fractions

In this 16-lesson unit, students build on earlier work with equivalent fractions and decimals to add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators. They will move from concrete examples (paper strips and number lines) to abstract skills (writing their own math sentences). By the end of the module, students will fluently work through multi-step word problems that contextualize their learning.

Key Words to Know

Denominator – shows the fractional unit, e.g. the fifths in $\frac{3}{5}$

Numerator – shows how many fractional units there are, e.g. the 3 in $\frac{3}{5}$

Benchmark Fraction – a very familiar fraction that can be referred to in comparison questions, e.g. $\frac{5}{6}$ is a benchmark fraction used when comparing $\frac{5}{7}$ and $\frac{7}{9}$

Like Denominators – fractions with the same denominator, e.g. $\frac{5}{6}$ and $\frac{7}{6}$

Unlike Denominators – fractions with different denominators, e.g. $\frac{5}{6}$ and $\frac{5}{7}$

Equivalent Fraction –

+ How you can help at home:

- x Look for opportunities in daily life to discuss fractional parts of a whole, e.g. pieces of pizza, parts of an hour, distances to familiar places
- x Continue to practice and review multiplication and division math facts – this greatly supports work with fractions!

Key Common Core Standards:

- x Use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions
 - o Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators
 - o Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions

