

Grade 4 – Unit 5

Add and Subtract Fractions



Parent Letter

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

In Unit 5, students will work on the following fourth grade Common Core standards in the Number and Operations—Fractions (NF) domain:

4.NF.3a-d	<p>Understand a fraction $\frac{a}{b}$ with $a > 1$ as a sum of fractions $\frac{1}{b}$.</p> <p>a. Understand addition and subtraction of fractions as joining and separating parts referring to the same whole.</p> <p>b. Decompose a fraction into a sum of fractions with the same denominator in more than one way, recording each decomposition by an equation. Justify decompositions, e.g., by using a visual fraction model. <i>Examples:</i> $\frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$; $\frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{8} + \frac{2}{8}$; $2\frac{1}{8} = 1 + 1 + \frac{1}{8} = \frac{8}{8} + \frac{8}{8} + \frac{1}{8}$.</p> <p>c. Add and subtract mixed numbers with like denominators, e.g., by replacing each mixed number with an equivalent fraction, and/or by using properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction.</p> <p>d. Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole and having like denominators, e.g., by using visual fraction models and equations to represent the problem.</p>
-----------	---

Unit 5 Concepts:

- Decompose fractions
- Addition and subtraction of fractions
- Add and subtract mixed numbers with like denominators using equivalent fractions and Properties of Operations
- Addition and subtraction of fractions through word problems

Unit 5 Vocabulary:

- Numerator
- Denominator
- Mixed Number
- Equivalent
- Decompose a fraction
- Improper fraction

Need a review?

Have your student login to Swun Math to access lesson support videos.

Ask questions like these to help your child become a productive mathematical thinker:

- What does this fraction represent?
- Can you represent this fraction on a number line?
- What rule or concepts help you solve this problem?

Subtract Mixed Numbers

$$\begin{array}{r} 2\frac{1}{4} \\ - 1\frac{2}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Unbundle a whole into its parts:



Subtract:

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\frac{5}{4} \\ - 1\frac{2}{4} \\ \hline 3/4 \end{array}$$

Add Mixed Numbers

$$1\frac{3}{4} + 2\frac{1}{4} = 3\frac{4}{4} = 4$$

- How would you use this in real life?
- Does your answer seem reasonable?

We encourage you to talk with your child daily about what was learned in math class.

Thank you for your support!