



Dear Fifth Grade Families,

In Unit 5, students will work on the following fifth grade Common Core standards in the Number and Operations – Fractions (NF) domain.

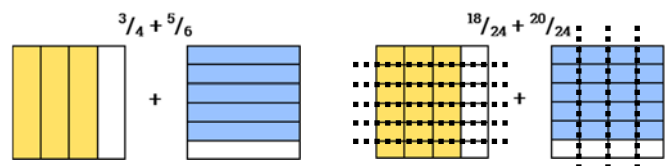
5.NF.1	Add and subtract fractions with unlike denominators (including mixed numbers) by replacing given fractions with equivalent fractions in such a way as to produce an equivalent sum or difference of fractions with like denominators. For example, $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{4} = \frac{8}{12} + \frac{15}{12} = \frac{23}{12}$. (In general, $\frac{a}{b} + \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad+bc}{bd}$.)
5.NF.2	Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole, including cases of unlike denominators, e.g., by using visual fraction models or equations to represent the problem. Use benchmark fractions and number sense of fractions to estimate mentally and assess the reasonableness of answers. For example, recognize an incorrect result $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{7}$, by observing that $\frac{3}{7} < \frac{1}{2}$.

Unit 5 Concepts:

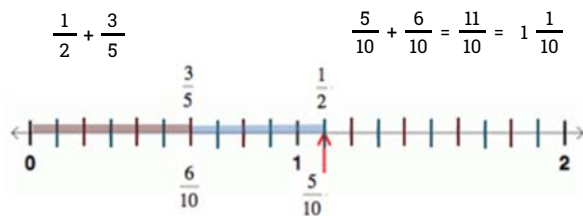
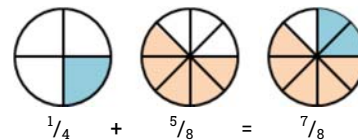
- Simplifying fractions
- Estimating sums and differences of fractions
- Adding fractions with unlike denominators using an area model, a number line, and an algorithm

Unit 5 Vocabulary:

- Simplest form
- Simplify
- Prime number
- Composite number
- Reasonable
- Estimate
- Benchmark fractions
- Common denominator
- Unlike denominator



To find common denominators, model the first fraction with horizontal bars, and the second fraction with vertical bars. Draw the same number of vertical and horizontal bars in both models. After you rename the fractions with common denominators, they can be added.



Benchmark fractions: commonly used fractions used for comparisons, for example:

$$\frac{1}{4} \quad \frac{1}{3} \quad \frac{1}{2} \quad \frac{2}{3} \quad \frac{3}{4}$$

Need a review? Check out our lesson videos on-line!

swunmath.com/student-videos

If you don't know the class's special name, ask your child's teacher.

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

- How did your estimate help you know that your answer was accurate?
- How does drawing a fraction model help you understand simplest form?
- How does using a number line help you understand addition of fractions?
- What is a more efficient way to add fractions that does not involve illustration?
- What is a real life scenario that involves adding fractions?

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

Thank you for your support!