

Name _____

Adding and Subtracting Fractions and Mixed Numbers with Like Denominators

Dear Family,

In this topic, our math class will be learning and practicing addition and subtraction of fractions with like denominators. A like denominator means that in a particular problem containing fractions, both denominators are the same. For example, $\frac{3}{12} + \frac{8}{12} = \frac{11}{12}$. Your child will learn to use fraction strips and number lines to model the addition and subtraction of fractions with like denominators.

Here are some activities that you can do with your child to help him or her understand adding and subtracting fractions with like denominators.

Fraction Writing

Materials paper and pencil

Step 1: Write $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{1}{8}$, and $\frac{1}{12}$ on a piece of paper.

Step 2: Have your child name the fractions that have a common denominator and explain how to add those fractions. Remind them that they add the numerators and write the sum over the common denominator.

Fraction Toss-Off

Materials 1–6 number cube

Step 1: Toss a number cube as many times as necessary to generate numerators and denominators. The cube may be tossed more than once for two-digit denominators.

Step 2: Have your child write each fraction in simplest form.