

Fraction Mini Series: Lesson 2

Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Rationale: Adding and subtracting fractions....you might as well ask me to walk on water? If you can relate to that this lesson is for you. By the end of this lesson you'll understand why adding and subtracting fractions is as easy as adding groups of apples.

So get ready to lead yourself to gain control over the F-bomb, and never fear adding or subtracting fractions again. One thing is very important though...at almost every step ask yourself "Do I understand what just happened?" It's in the moments where you say "No" that we need to focus.

This lesson: Within this lesson we are going to focus on four main topics:

1. How is adding fractions just like adding anything else?
2. How do I use equivalent fractions to add fractions with different denominators?
3. How do I use equivalent fractions to subtract fractions with different denominators?
4. What's up with negative fractions? Who 'own' the negative sign?

Lesson Sequence: Let's kick this off with an 8 minute video. Please feel free to rewind or fast forward as much as you want. This is learning on your time, at your pace, in short ... it's all about you!

[Video: Adding and Subtracting Fractions](#)

Alright, I know that was a lot of fraction talk but remember, if you're not sure you can go back and watch it again or email me any questions.

The next step for us is to see whether or not you truly have mastery of these concepts. To do this we are going to hit up the most revolutionary educational site in recent times ... Khan Academy. This is like the equivalent of Buckley's cough syrup for math ... no matter what you think of it, it works!

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On the site you're about to visit there are 3 activities you should complete. There are suggestions for mastery goals found at the top of the screen and there is a scratch pad option that allows you to work on the page you're viewing. If that's not enough, there are hints and example videos found to the right of the workspace.

The screenshot shows the Khan Academy interface for the activity "Adding fractions with unlike denominators". The main workspace contains a scratchpad with the equation $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{4} = ?$ and the handwritten text "MATH!". To the right, there are buttons for "Check Answer", "Show me how" (with "I'd like a hint" below it), and a video player titled "Stuck? Watch a video." with a thumbnail for "Example of adding fraction". The top navigation bar includes "KHANACADEMY", "Subject: Pre-algebra", "About", "Donate", a search bar, "Log in", and "Unclaimed points". A sidebar on the left lists various topics under "FRACTIONS".

Topics

Hint

Activate Scratchpad to write on the screen!

Video Examples

[Activity 1: Adding Fractions With Unlike Denominators](#) - mess around with the scratchpad and go for 5 in a row!

[Activity 2: Subtracting Fractions With Unlike Denominators](#) - How many can you rack up correctly? Challenge a friend or a parent!

[Activity 3: Adding and Subtracting Negative Fractions](#) - If you can get these, you can get them all!

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What Else Do You Need To Know?:

In this section, you can provide up to five questions you have about the material. Write them on this lesson or just email them to your teacher. If you're feeling brave, tweet them out to friends ...see if they know!

	What's up?
Question 1	
Question 2	
Question 3	
Question 4	
Question 5	

Show me what you know!

Alright, we've made it. Now it's time to demonstrate your understanding and create something that might help others along the way. I want you to create a piece that shows me you now know this material. That same piece should be designed to help others who would have trouble just like you did earlier. The only thing I ask, if you've done one of these lessons before, please try something new!

The piece can be any format you like, provided that it communicates your understanding, and can be used to help others having similar struggles.

Some suggested formats are:

Screencast

Show Me Composition

Weebly or Blog Site

PowerPoint / Prezi

Poster

NearPod Lesson

A song/Poem

When you've finished it, come see me and we'll talk about ways, if you're comfortable, to share it.