Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Today's Standard

5.NF.A1 - 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, 2/3 + 5/4 = 8/12 + 15/12 = 23/12. (In general, a/b + c/d = (ad + bc)/bd.)

Cues	Notes
Equivalent Fractions	Equivalent fractions are different fractions that represent the same value.
Common Denominator	A common denominator is needed to add or subtract fractions with unlike denominators.
Mixed Numbers	Mixed numbers include both a whole number and a fraction.
Fraction Addition	To add fractions with unlike denominators, convert them to have a common denominator first.
Fraction Subtraction	Subtracting fractions with unlike denominators follows the same process as addition.

Summary

Adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators involves converting the fractions to have a common denominator using equivalent fractions. This process ensures accurate results and builds a foundation for more complex fraction operations.