Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Today's Standard

5.NF.A2 - 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 2/5 + 1/2 = 3/7, by observing that 3/7 < 1/2.

Cues	Notes
What are unlike denominators?	Unlike denominators are when the bottom numbers of fractions are different.
How do you add fractions with different denominators?	To add fractions with different denominators, find a common denominator first.
What are benchmark fractions?	Benchmark fractions are common fractions like 1/2, 1/4, and 3/4 used to estimate.
Why is estimating important?	Estimating helps check if your answer makes sense.
Give an example of a visual fraction model.	A visual fraction model can be fraction strips or circles showing parts of a whole.

Summary

To solve word problems with fractions, find a common denominator, use visual models, and estimate with benchmark fractions to ensure your answer is reasonable.