



Basic Addition and Subtraction Representation

Today's Standard

K.OA.A1 - Represent addition and subtraction with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings¹, sounds (e.g., claps), acting out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, or equations.

Cues	Notes
What is addition?	Addition is combining two or more numbers to get a larger number.
What is subtraction?	Subtraction is taking away one number from another to get a smaller number.
How can we represent addition and subtraction?	We can use objects, fingers, drawings, sounds, acting out, verbal explanations, expressions, and equations to represent addition and subtraction.
What are common misconceptions?	Misconception 1: Addition always makes numbers larger and subtraction always makes numbers smaller.
How can we correct these misconceptions?	Misconception 2: The order of numbers in subtraction does not matter.
	To correct misconception 1, show that adding or subtracting zero does not change the number.
	To correct misconception 2, use examples to show that reversing the order in subtraction changes the result.

Summary

Understanding addition and subtraction involves using various representations. Common misconceptions include thinking addition always increases numbers and the order in subtraction doesn't matter. Visual aids and examples help correct these misconceptions.