Adding and Subtracting Mixed Numbers

Today's Standard

4.NF.B3c - Add and subtract mixed numbers with like denominators, e.g., by replacing each mixed number with an equivalent fraction, and/or by using properties of operations and the relationship between addition and subtraction.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Cooking recipes that require fractional measurements; Building projects requiring precise measurements; Dividing a pizza or cake into portions; Budgeting and spending money with fractional amounts

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to add and subtract mixed numbers with the same denominators. A mixed number includes a whole number and a fraction. We can change mixed numbers to fractions, do the math, and then change them back.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Some kids think they need a common denominator even when the denominators are the same. Others might add or subtract the whole numbers and fractions separately. Both are mistakes.

Quiz Me

- What is a mixed number?

- What do you do if the denominators are the same?

- How do you change a mixed number to a fraction?

- Can you add whole numbers and fractions separately?

- Why do you need to know about fractions?

Help Me

Adding and subtracting mixed numbers is like cooking. If you need 1 and 1/2 cups of sugar and 2 and 1/2 cups of flour, you can change the mixed numbers to fractions, add them, and then change them back to mixed numbers.