Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Today's Standard

4.NF.B3d - Solve word problems involving addition and subtraction of fractions referring to the same whole and having like denominators, e.g., by using visual fraction models and equations to represent the problem.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Sharing a pizza equally among friends.; Combining different lengths of ribbon for a craft project.; Calculating total time spent on homework when given in fractions.; Measuring ingredients for a recipe.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to add and subtract fractions that have the same bottom number, called the denominator. We use pictures and equations to help us solve problems.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids might think they need to add or subtract the bottom numbers of fractions, but that's not correct. Another mistake is thinking they need to change fractions into decimal numbers to add or subtract them. We use pictures to help fix these mistakes.

Quiz Me

- What is a fraction?

- What does the bottom number of a fraction tell us?

- Do we add the bottom numbers when adding fractions?

- Can we add fractions without changing them to decimals?

- What can we use to help us see fractions?

Help Me

When we add or subtract fractions, we think about real-life things like sharing pizza or measuring ingredients. We use pictures to help us see the parts we're working with.