

Parent Guide to the

Opposite Signs and Number Line

Today's Standard

6.NS.C6a - Recognize opposite signs of numbers as indicating locations on opposite sides of 0 on the number line; recognize that the opposite of the opposite of a number is the number itself, e.g., -(-3) = 3, and that 0 is its own opposite.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Balancing a checkbook; Temperature changes; Elevation levels; Game scores

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about opposite signs on a number line. If a number has an opposite sign, it is on the other side of 0. For example, -3 and 3 are on opposite sides of 0.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think the opposite of a negative number is another negative number, but it is a positive number. They might also think 0 can be positive or negative, but it is neutral.

Quiz Me

- What is the opposite of 3?
- Where is 0 on the number line?
- Is -5 on the same side as 5?
- What is the opposite of -2?
- Is 0 positive or negative?

Help Me

Opposite signs help us understand different real-world situations like temperatures going up or down. For example, if you go 3 steps forward, the opposite is 3 steps backward.