Subtraction of Rational Numbers

Today's Standard

7.NS.A1c - Understand subtraction of rational numbers as adding the additive inverse, p - q = p + (-q). Show that the distance between two rational numbers on the number line is the absolute value of their difference, and apply this principle in real-world contexts.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Calculating temperature differences; Determining financial gains or losses; Measuring distances on a map; Comparing elevations above and below sea level

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about subtracting rational numbers by adding the opposite number. We also learned how to find the distance between two numbers using absolute value.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Some kids might think that subtracting a negative number makes the answer more negative, but it actually makes it more positive. Others might confuse absolute value with the original number, but it's really just the distance from zero.

Quiz Me

- What is the opposite of a number?

- How do you subtract rational numbers?

- What is absolute value?

- How do you find the distance between two numbers?

- Can you give an example of subtracting rational numbers?

Help Me

Subtracting rational numbers means adding the opposite number. For example, if you subtract -3 from 5, it's the same as adding 3 to 5, which equals 8. This can be used in real life, like figuring out how much money you have after spending or saving.