Use Equivalent Fractions to Add and Subtract

For each problem, use the benchmark fractions on this number line to estimate each sum or difference.



Find each fraction sum or difference using the following steps:

- **1.** Write several equivalent fractions for each fraction in the problem in the two columns under Equivalent Fractions.
- 2. Find two fractions with a common denominator—one from each of the Equivalent Fractions columns. Use the *Fractions on Number Lines Chart*, *Fraction Chart*, and *Finding Equivalent Fractions and Ratios Menu* in the *Student Guide* Reference section.
- **3.** Draw a circle around the two fractions.
- **4.** Write a number sentence to show the sum or difference.
- **5.** Make a drawing with circle pieces of a single color to show your reasoning.
- **6.** Compare your answer to your estimate on the number line to see if it is reasonable.

Sum or Difference	Equivalent Fractions		Number Sentence and Circle Pieces	
Example:	$\frac{2}{4}$	3 8 6	$\frac{4}{8} - \frac{3}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$	
$\frac{2}{4} - \frac{3}{8}$	$ \begin{array}{c} 2\\ \frac{3}{6}\\ \frac{4}{8}\\ \frac{3\times}{8\times}\\ \frac{3\times}{8\times}\\ \frac{3\times}{8\times}\\ \end{array} $	$ \begin{array}{r} 16 \\ \frac{3}{3} = \frac{9}{24} \\ \frac{4}{4} = \frac{12}{32} \end{array} $		

Sum or Difference	Equivalent Fractions		Number Sentence and Circle Pieces
1. $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	2 3	
2. $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{10}$	2 5	2 10	
3. $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{8}$	1 2	1 8	

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Sum or Difference	Equivalent Fractions		Number Sentence and Circle Pieces
4. $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{6}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	2 6	
5. $\frac{3}{12} + \frac{5}{8}$	3 12	5 8	
6. $\frac{4}{8} + \frac{1}{5}$	4 8	1 5	

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Sum or Difference	Equivalent Fractions		Number Sentence and Circle Pieces
7. $\frac{4}{5} - \frac{7}{10}$	4 5	7 10	



8. A. Show about where the difference for $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{12}$ would be on this number line.



Sum or Difference	Equivalent Fractions		Number Sentence and Circle Pieces
B. $\frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{12}$	1 3	2 12	

C. Was your estimate reasonable? Explain your thinking.

Complete the *Fraction Sums and Differences* pages in the *Student Guide* to continue to practice adding and subtracting fractions.

Name	Date

Use Equivalent Fractions to Add and Subtract Check-In: Question 8 Feedback Box	Expectation	Check In	Comments
Identify and find equivalent fractions using fraction circle pieces, number lines, and multiplication and division strategies. [Q# 8B]	E1		
Represent addition and subtraction of fractions with fraction circle pieces and number sentences. [Q# 8B]	E3		
Add and subtract fractions including those with unlike denominators using area models and paper-and-pencil methods. [Q# 8B]	E8		
Estimate sums and differences of fractions using benchmarks and mental math strategies. [Q# 8A, C]	E9		
Find common factors and common denominators and use them to add and subtract fractions [Q# 8B]	E10		