

Math Language and Fluency



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Say hello.

Describe your role as an educator and the mathematics you support.





Schedule for This Year

September 19	Mathematics Language and Fluency
October 17	High-Quality Tier 1
December 5	Leveraging Word Problems – Part 1
January 26	Leveraging Word Problems – Part 2
February 16	High-Quality Mathematics Assessment
March 16	High-Quality Supports in Mathematics – Putting It Together



Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit
instruction

Precise
language

Multiple
representations

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency building

Problem solving
instruction



Mathematical Language



Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit
instruction

Precise
language

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



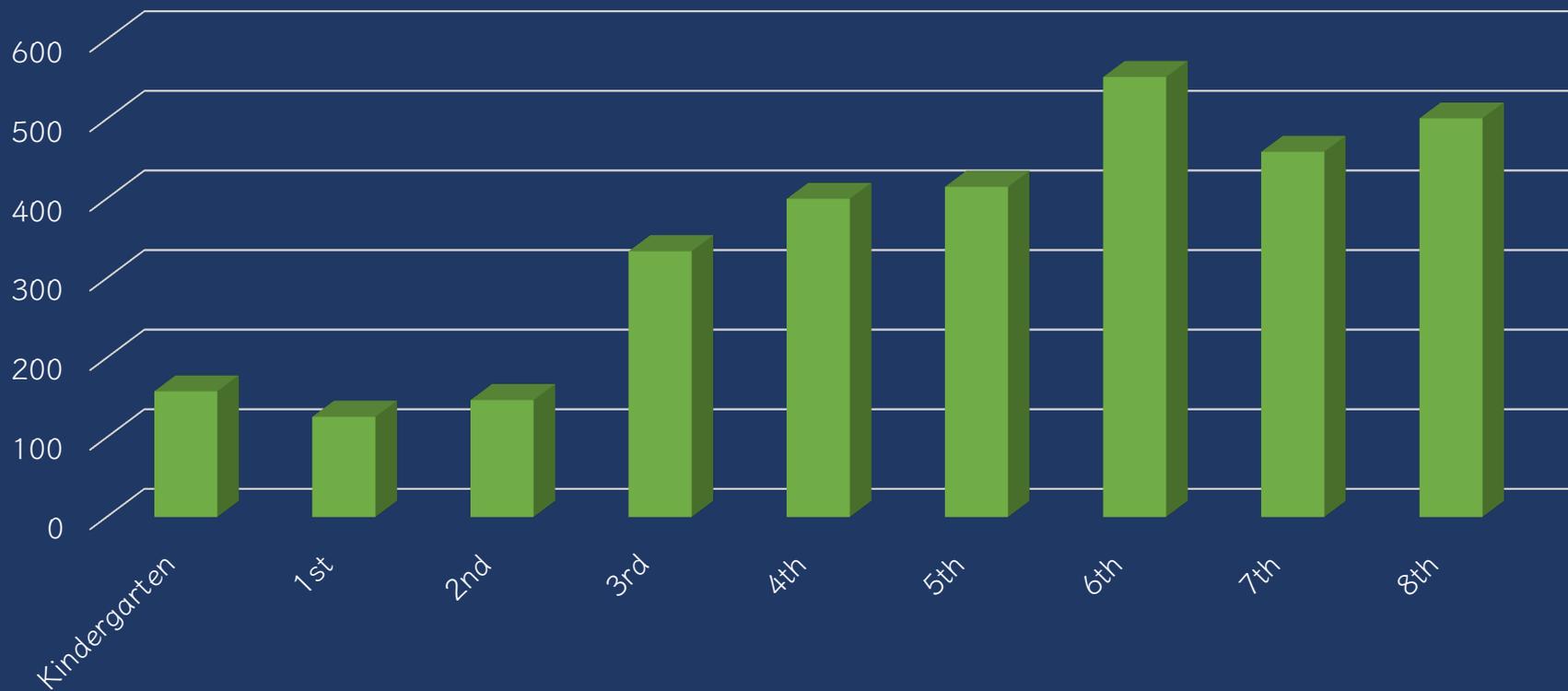
Mathematics Language and Fluency
September 19, 2022

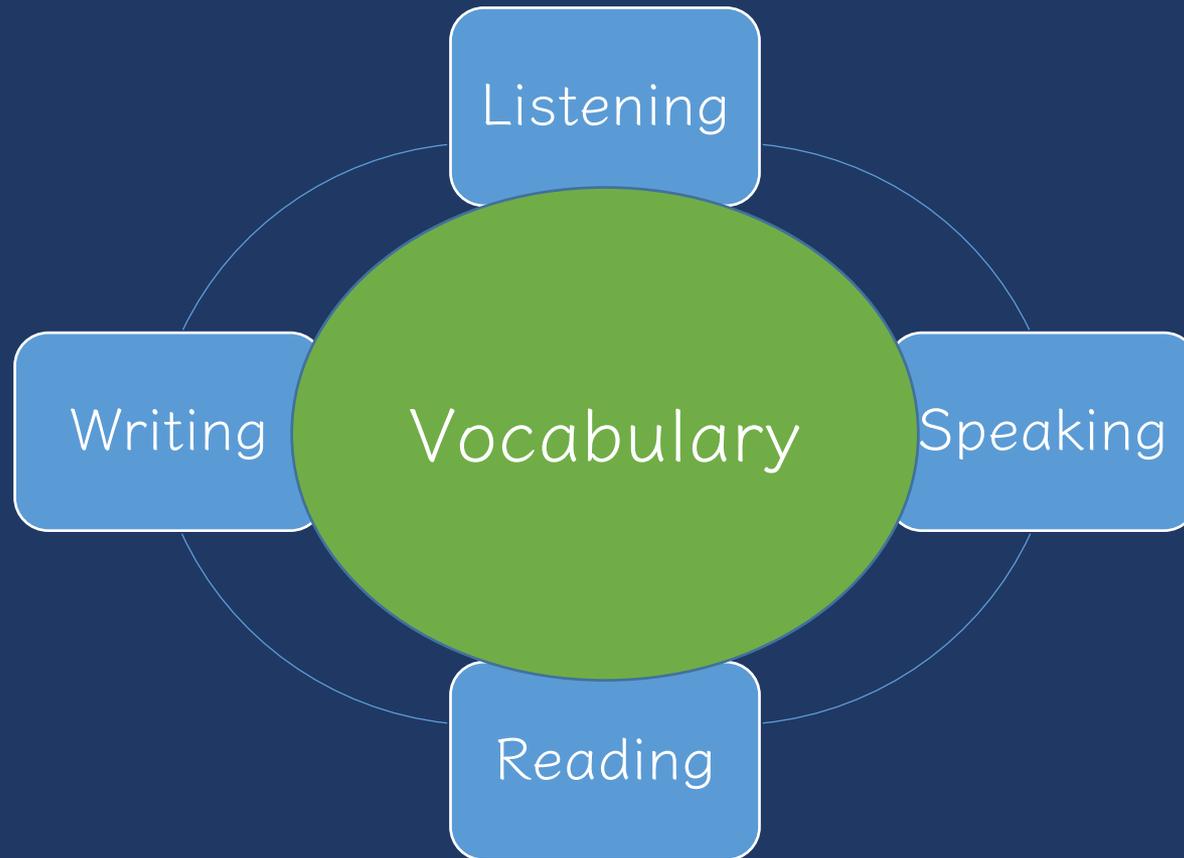
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Mathematical Language

Instead of that...	Say this...







1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings

base

right

degree

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings

2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings
(but a more precise math meaning)

difference

even

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math

trapezoid

numerator

parallelogram

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning

round

square

second

base

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings

divide vs.
Continental
Divide

variable vs.
variably
cloudy

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs

eight vs. ate

sum vs. some

rows vs. rose

base vs. bass

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
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4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings

factor vs.
multiple

hundreds vs.
hundredths

numerators
vs.
denominator

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
3. Some math terms are only used in math
4. Some math terms have more than one meaning
5. Some math terms are similar to other content-area terms with different meanings
6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings

mesa vs.
tabla

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
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6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities

four vs. forty

Rubenstein & Thompson (2002)



1. Some math terms are shared with English but have different meanings
2. Some math words are shared with English with similar meanings (but a more precise math meaning)
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7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities
10. Some math concepts are verbalized in more than one way

skip count
vs. multiples

one-fourth
vs. one
quarter



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6. Some math terms are homographs
7. Some math terms are related but have distinct meanings
8. An English math term may translate into another language with different meanings
9. English spelling and usage may have irregularities
10. Some math concepts are verbalized in more than one way
11. Informal terms may be used for formal math terms

rhombus vs.
diamond

vertex vs.
corner





What are the ways you see your students experience difficulty with the vocabulary of math?



Use formal math language

Use terms precisely



Mathematics

Regroup
Value
Hundreds
Less
Ones

Fewer
Greater
Tens

Balance
Place
Digit



Supporting Clear and Concise Mathematics Language

Instead of That, Say This

Elizabeth M. Hughes, Sarah R. Powell, and Elizabeth A. Stevens

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Middle-School Mathematics



Math Language in Middle School

Be More Specific

Sarah R. Powell, Elizabeth A. Stevens, and Elizabeth M. Hughes

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286 CORWIN FOR EDUCATIONAL CHANGES





What number is in the tens place?



What digit is in the tens place?
What is the value of the digit in the tens place?

135

Why this is important...

- A number refers to the entire amount.
- The 3 in the tens place value is not a number, but rather a digit in the number 135.
- Reinforces conceptual understanding of place value.
- Emphasizes that 3 is part of the number 135 with a value of 30.



The alligator eats the
bigger number



is less than
OR
is greater than

Why this is important...

- Students must learn how to read and write the inequality symbols.
- Students must learn to read equations correctly from left to right because $<$ and $>$ are two distinct symbols.





carry OR borrow



regroup OR
trade OR
exchange

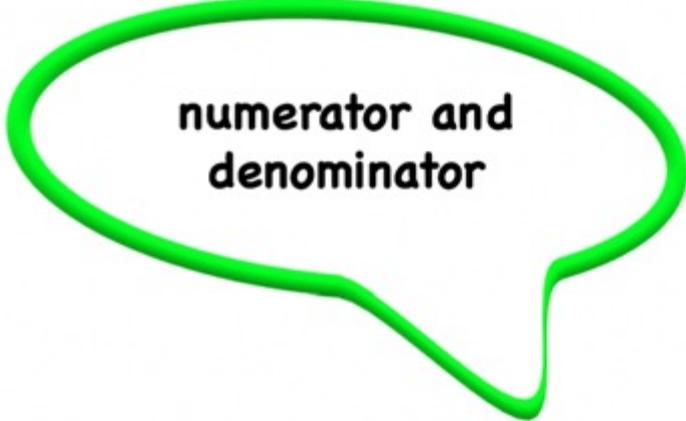
$$\begin{array}{r} 167 \\ + 294 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Why this is important...

- “Carry” or “borrow” is procedural.
- The other terms reinforce the conceptual understanding of regrouping ones into tens, tens into hundreds, and so on (i.e., the total amount does not change) *or* ungrouping hundreds into tens, tens into ones, and so on.



top number and
bottom number

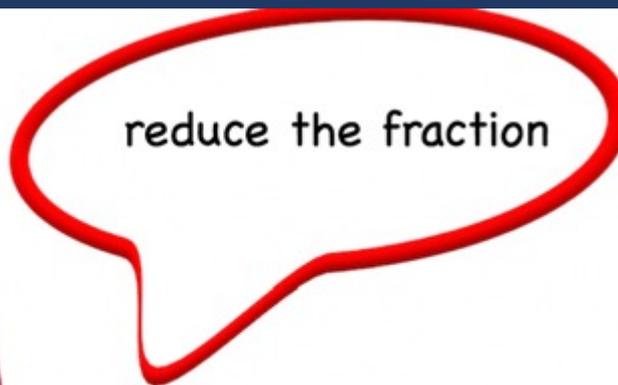


numerator and
denominator

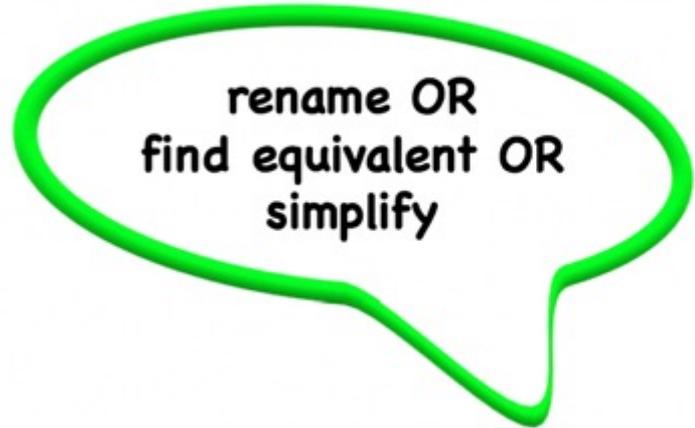
Why this is important...

- Identifying that there are two separate (whole) numbers suggests that whole number properties can be applied to fractions.
- Emphasizing that a fraction is ONE number with ONE magnitude on a number line that is communicated with a numerator and denominator is important.





reduce the fraction



rename OR
find equivalent OR
simplify

Why this is important...

- Reducing suggests that the quantity or magnitude of the new number will be less than the original number.



Four point seven
Four point oh seven

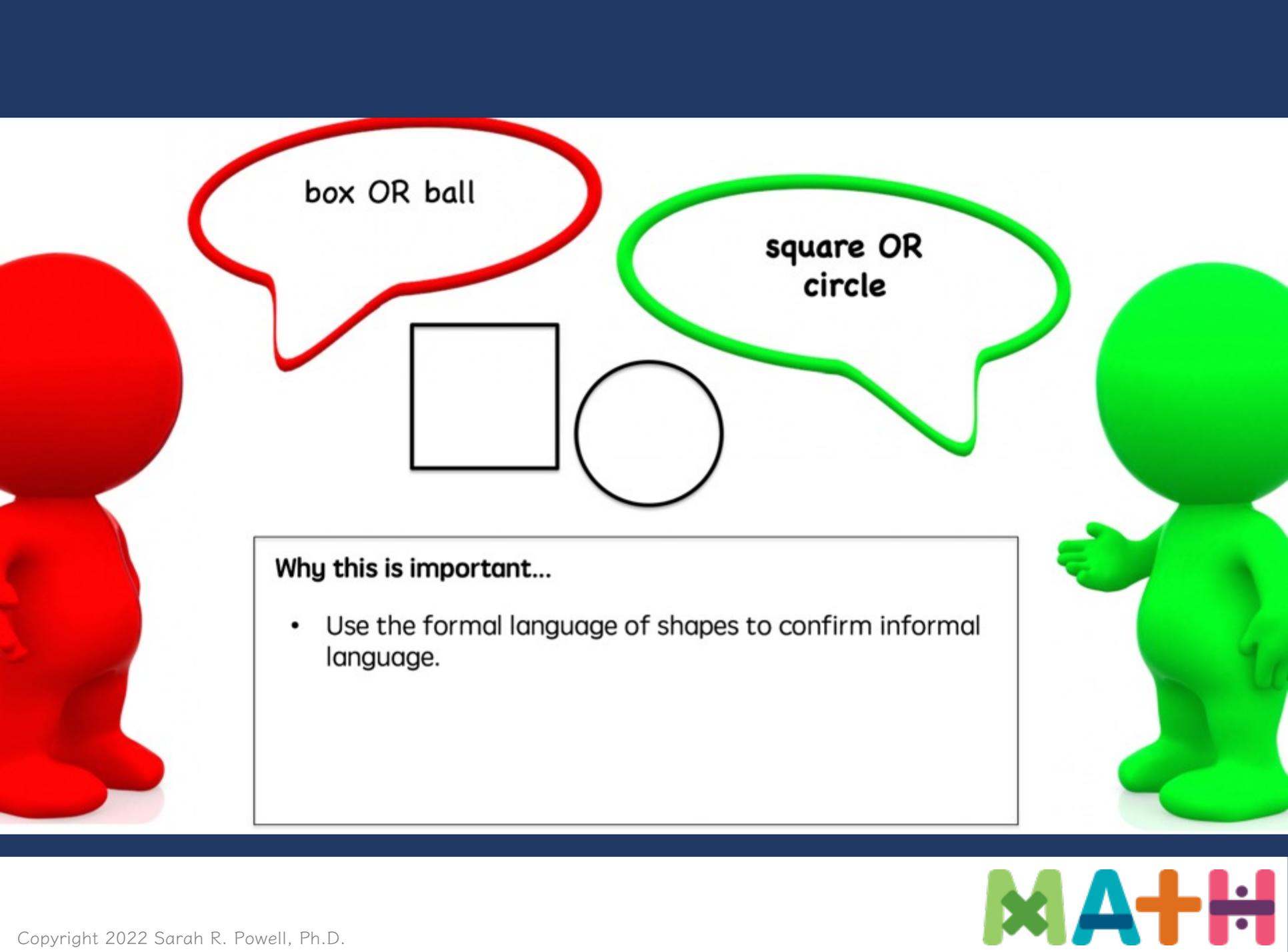


Four and seven tenths
Four and seven hundredths

4.7
4.07

Why this is important...

- Accurately shares the magnitude of the decimal.
- Emphasizes place value.



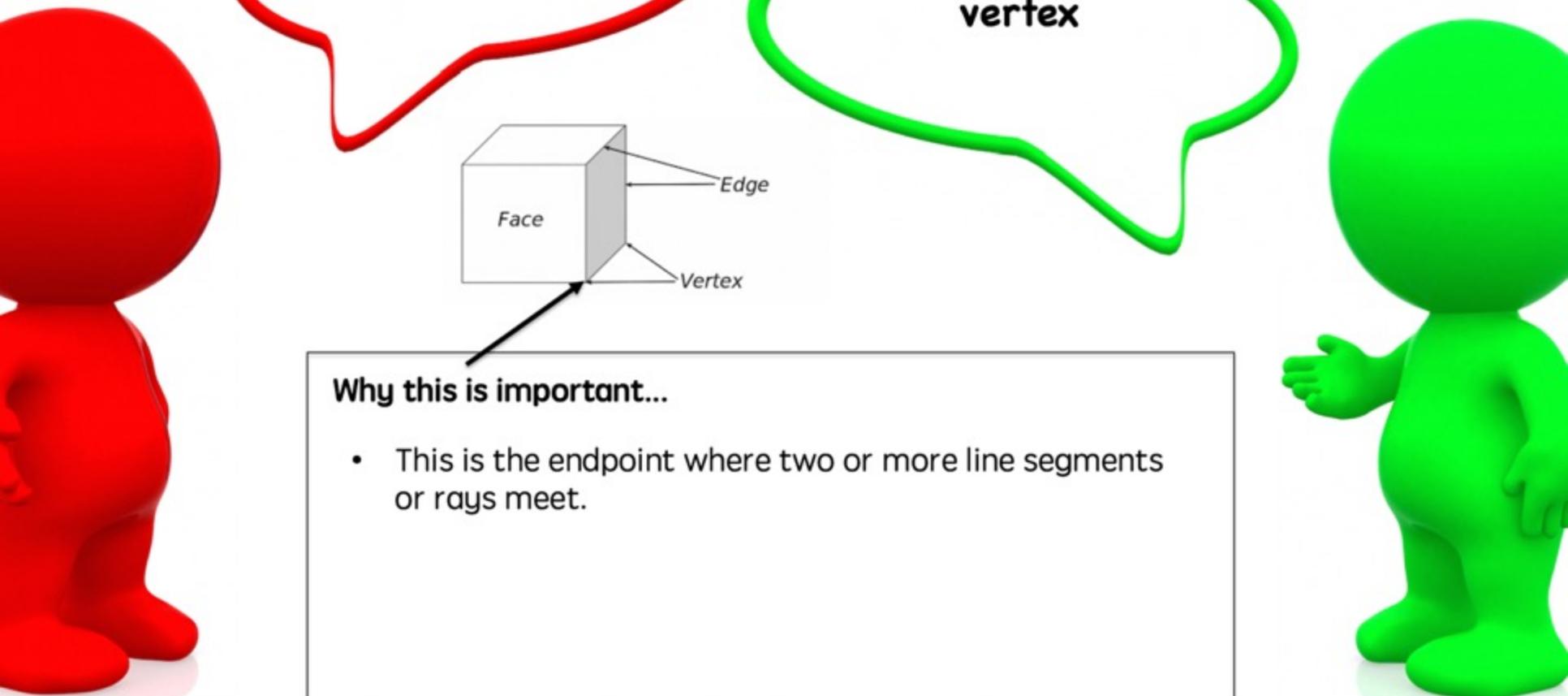
box OR ball

square OR
circle



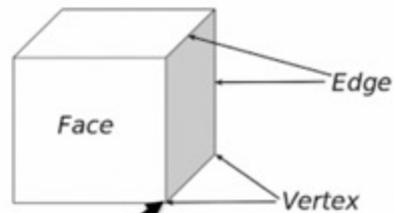
Why this is important...

- Use the formal language of shapes to confirm informal language.



point

vertex



Why this is important...

- This is the endpoint where two or more line segments or rays meet.

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Mathematical Language

Instead of that...	Say this...



Identify examples of
“Instead of _____, say
_____.”



Use formal math language

Use terms precisely



Use Terms With Precision



Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



Factor

$$1 \times 8 = 8$$

$$2 \times 4 = 8$$

factor *factor*

Multiple

$$8 \times 1 = 8$$

$$8 \times 2 = 16$$

multiples of 8

E



Improper fraction

$$\frac{8}{5}$$

Mixed number

$$1\frac{3}{5}$$

Proper fraction

$$\frac{2}{9}$$

Proportion

$$\frac{2}{5} = \frac{8}{20}$$

Ratio

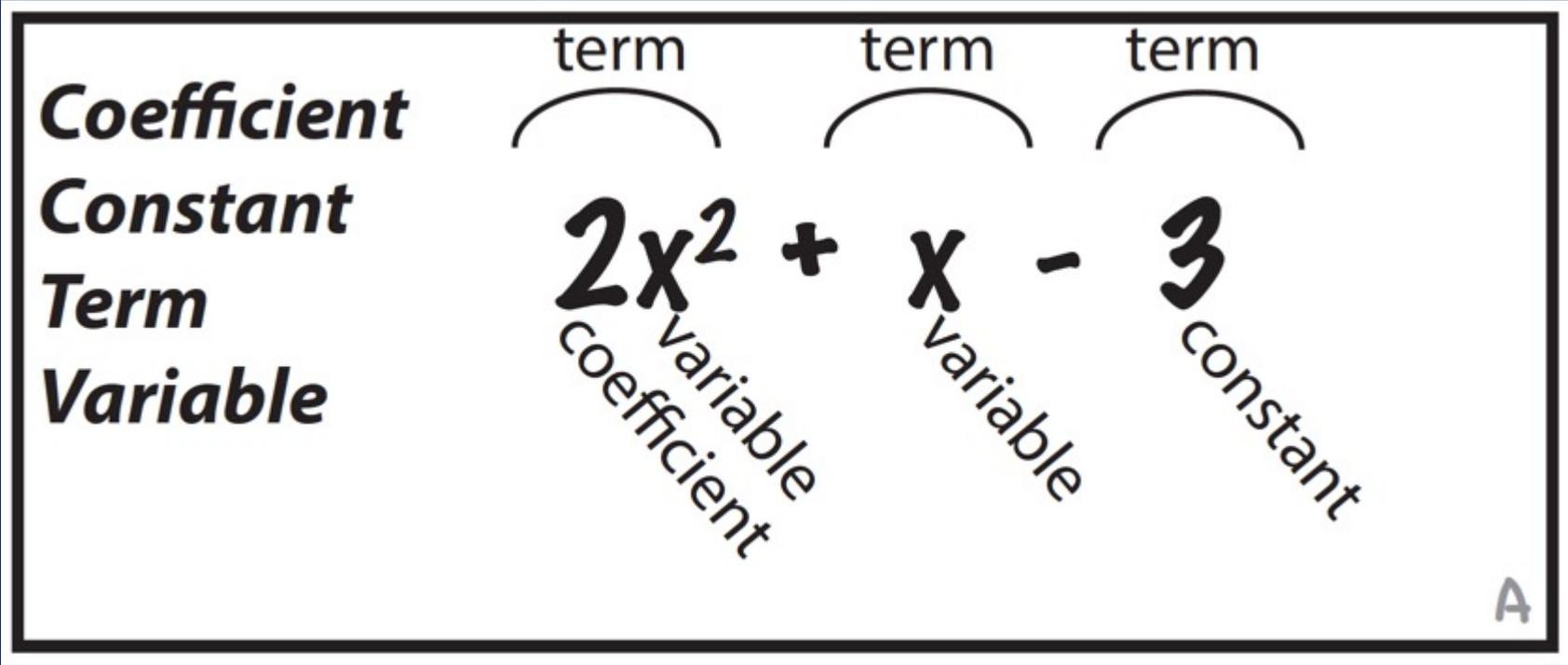
$$4:3$$

Unit fraction

$$\frac{1}{6}$$

D





Equation $9x - 4 = 7x$

Expression $9x - 4$

Formula $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

Function $f(x)$

Inequality $9x - 4 > 6x$

c



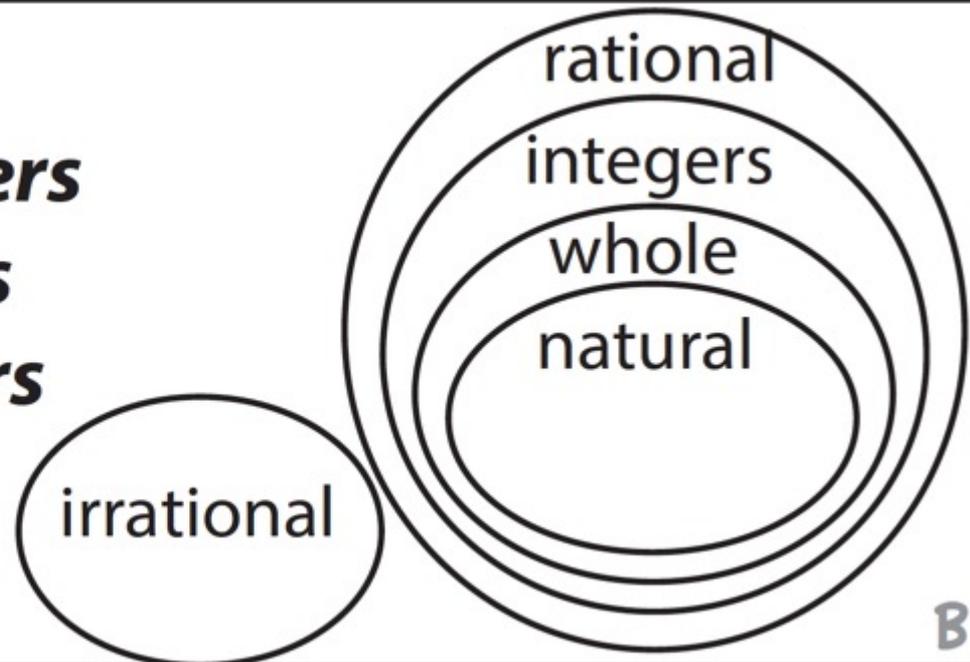
Integers

Irrational numbers

Natural numbers

Rational numbers

Whole numbers



Quadrilaterals

Kite



Rhombus



Parallelogram



Square



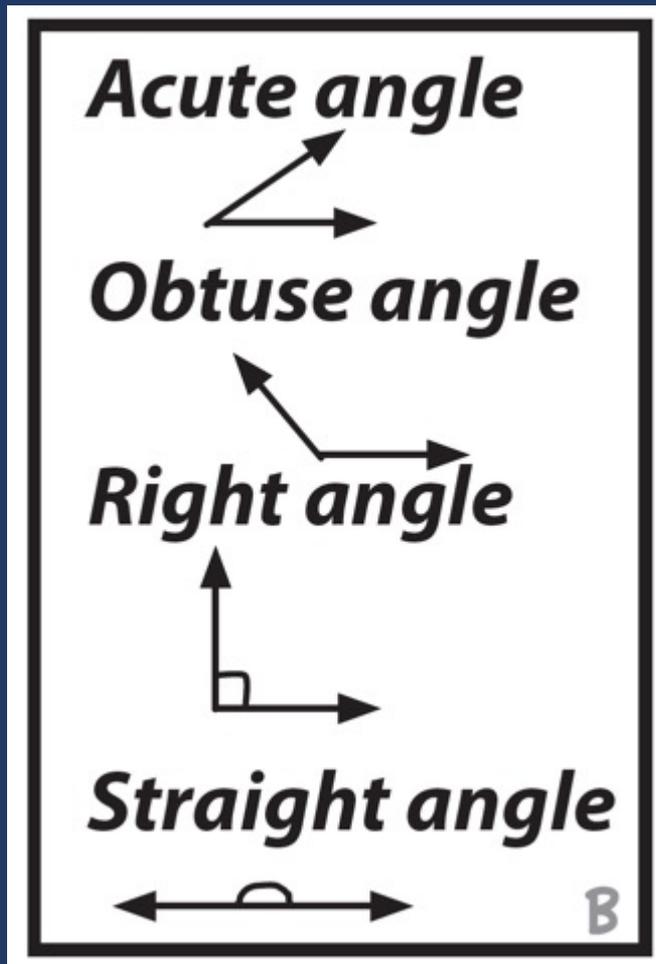
Rectangle



Trapezoid



A



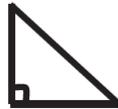
Acute triangle



Obtuse triangle



Right triangle



Equilateral triangle



Isosceles triangle



Scalene triangle

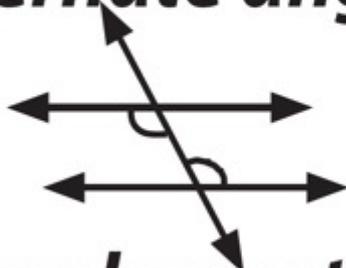


C

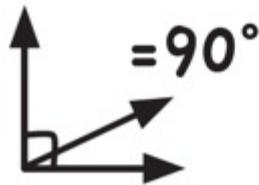
Adjacent angles



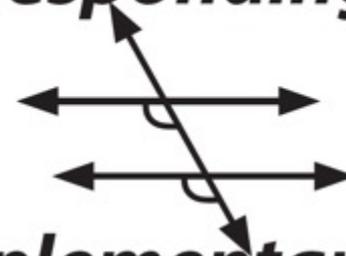
Alternate angles



Complementary angles



Corresponding angles

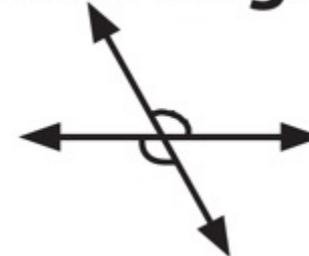


Supplementary angles

= 180°



Vertical angles

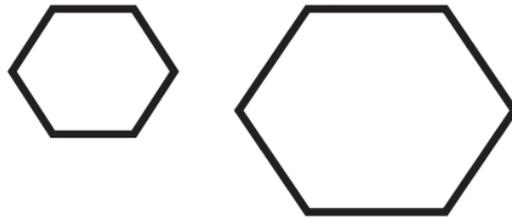


D

Congruent figures

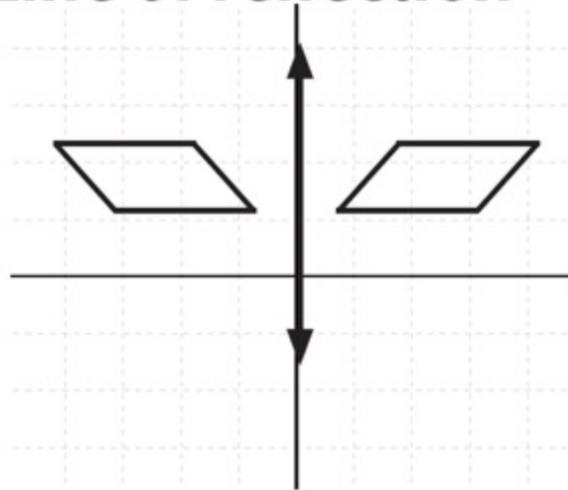


Similar figures

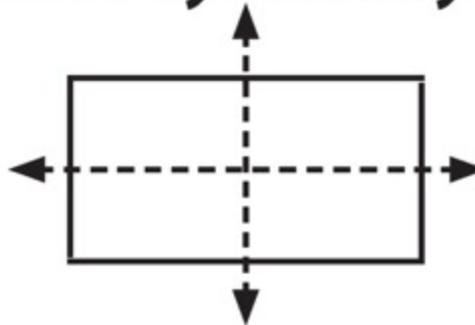


E

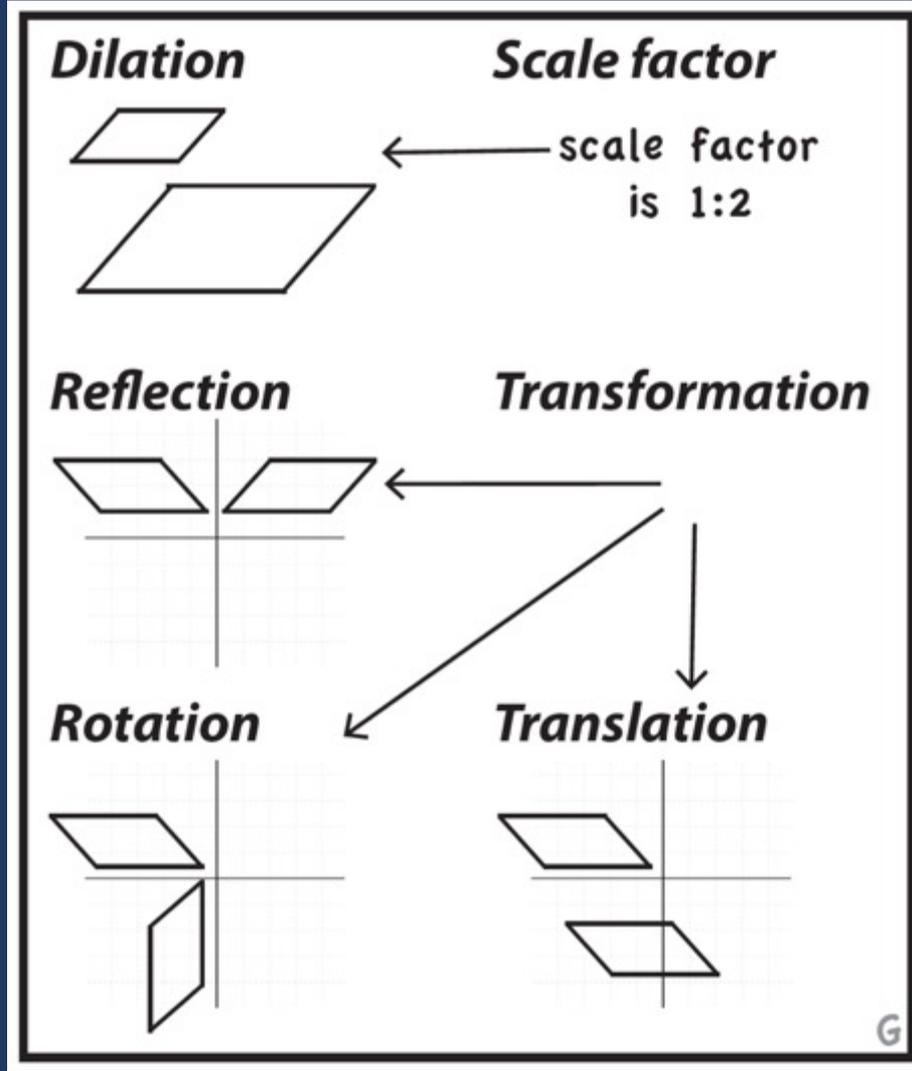
Line of reflection



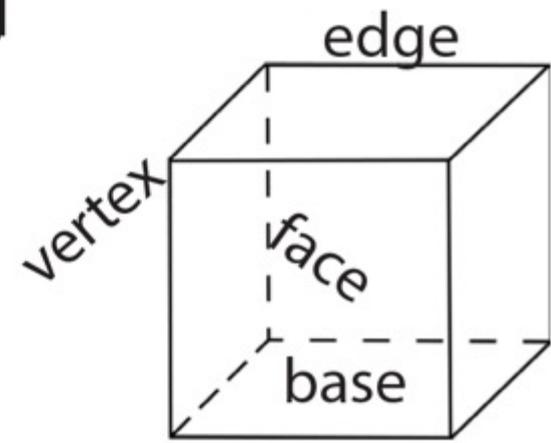
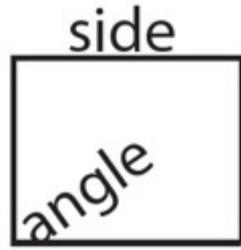
Line of symmetry



F

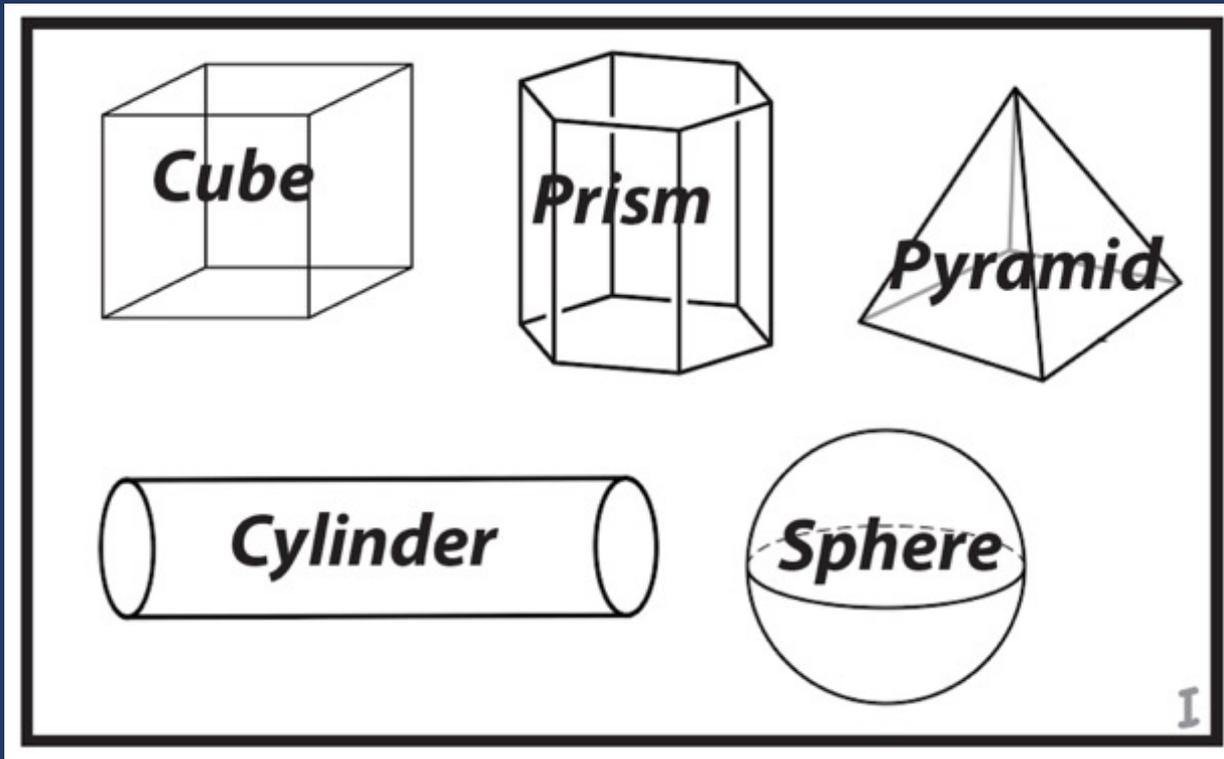


Angle
Base
Edge
Face
Side
Vertex



#





Coordinate plane

Ordered pair Quadrant 2

Quadrants

x

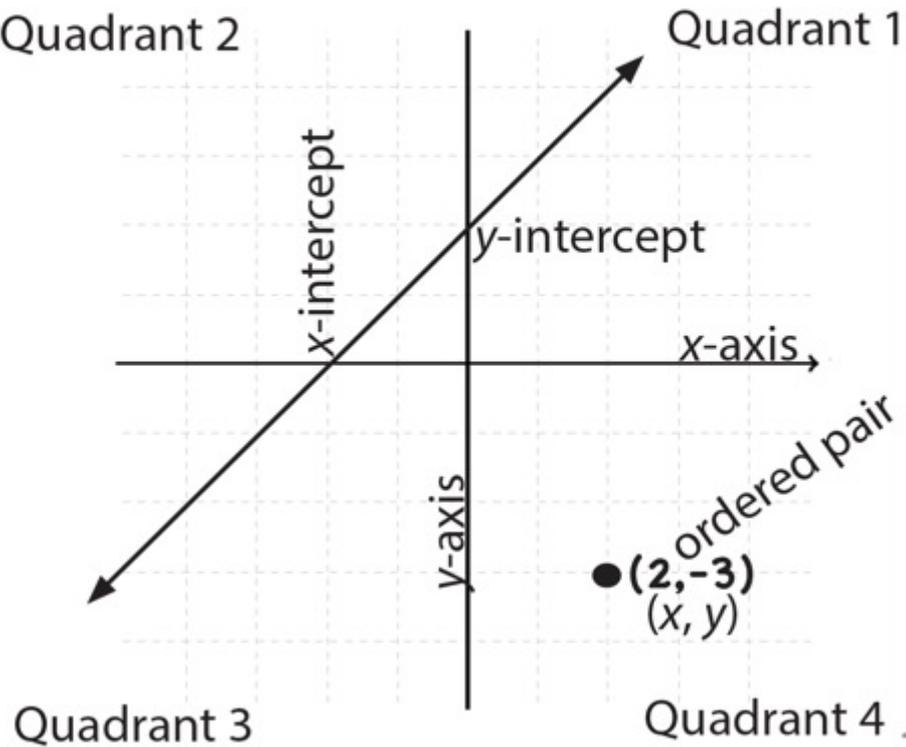
x-axis

x-intercept

y

y-axis

y-intercept



Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



Discuss terms you want
your students to use
with precision.



Use formal math language

Use terms precisely

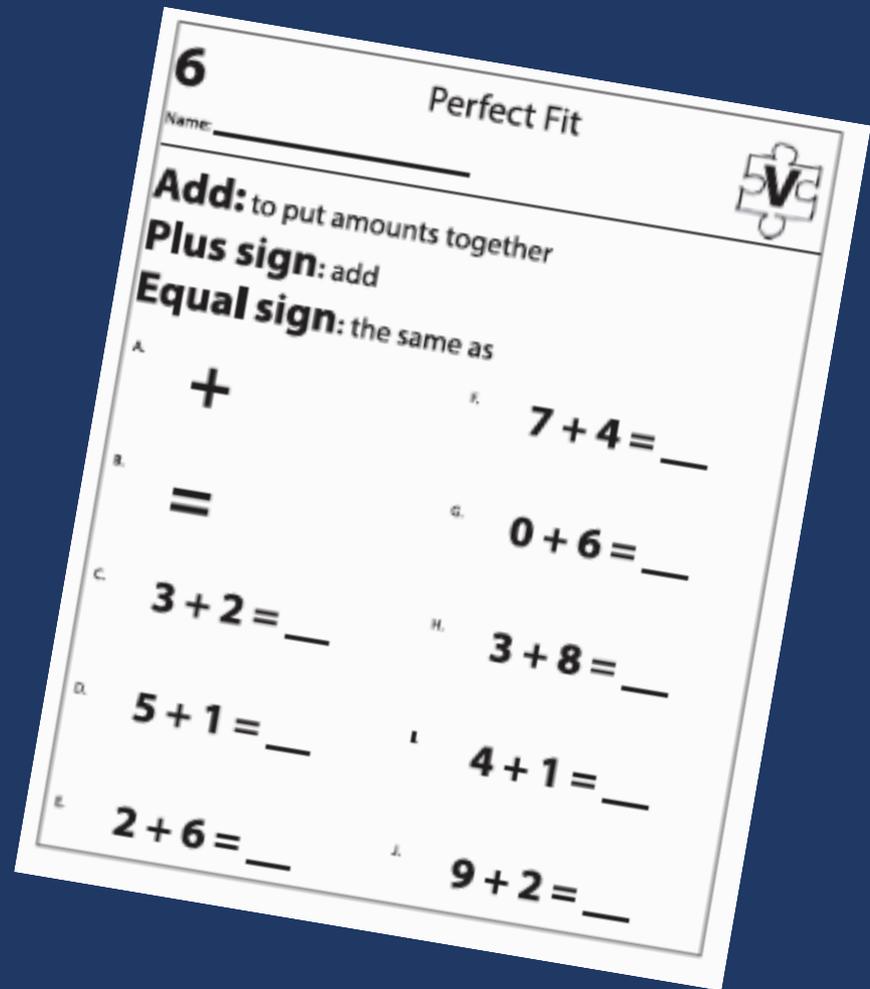
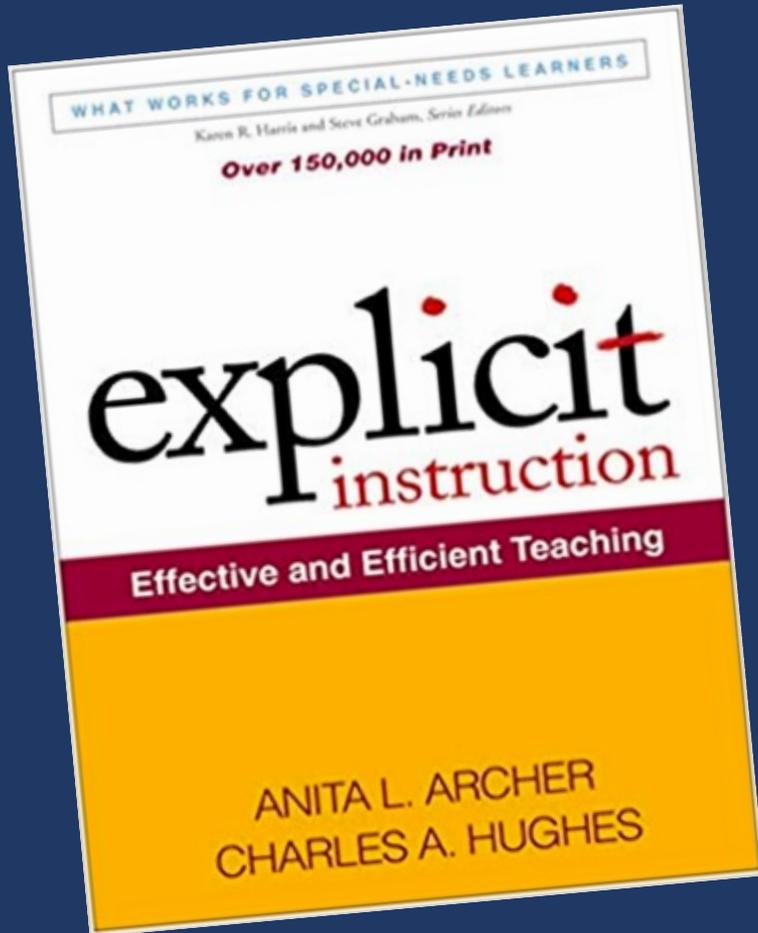


Use Terms With Precision

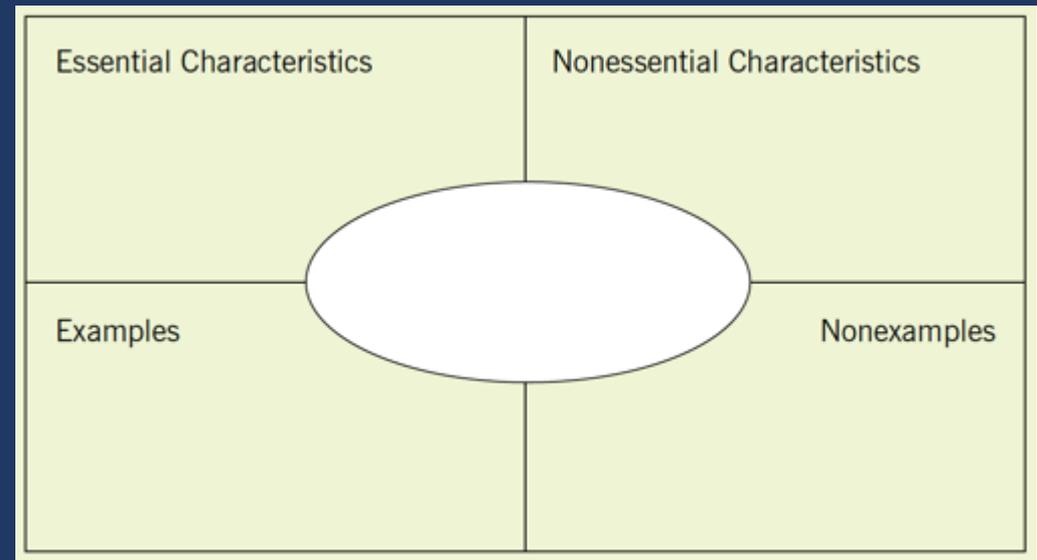
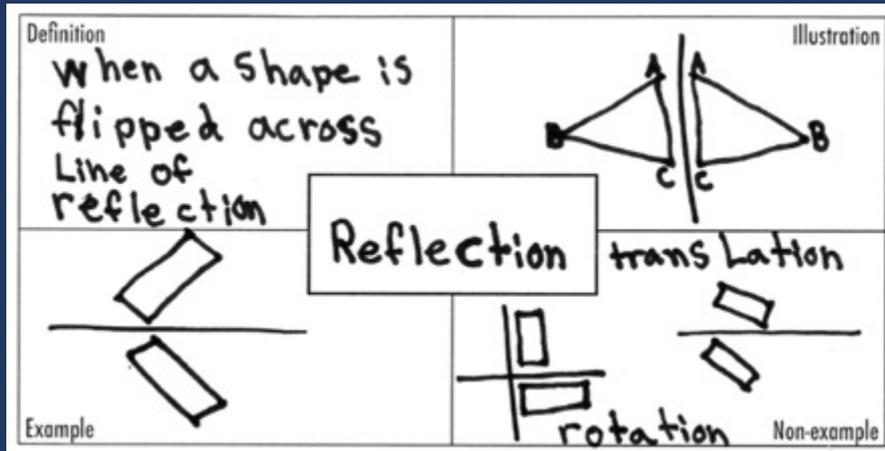
Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



1. Use explicit instruction



2. Use graphic organizers



Dunston & Tyminski (2013)



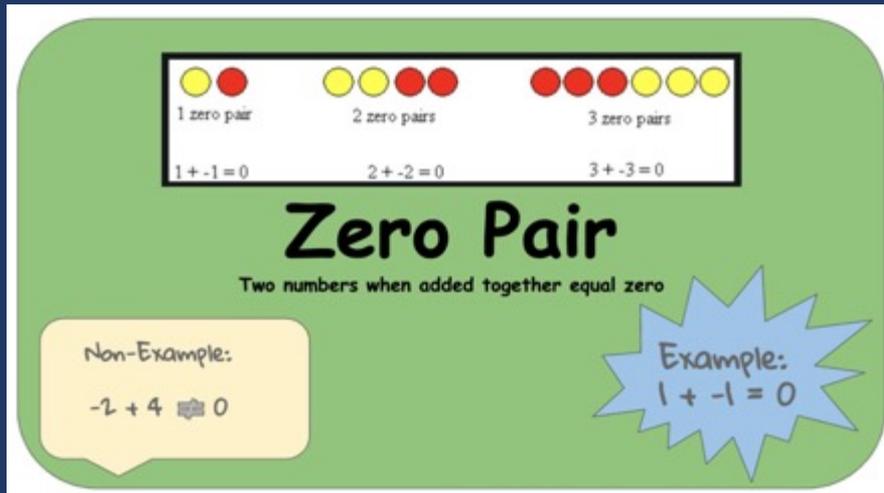
2. Use graphic organizers

Word	Lightbulb Word
Definition	Picture

Dunston & Tyminski (2013)

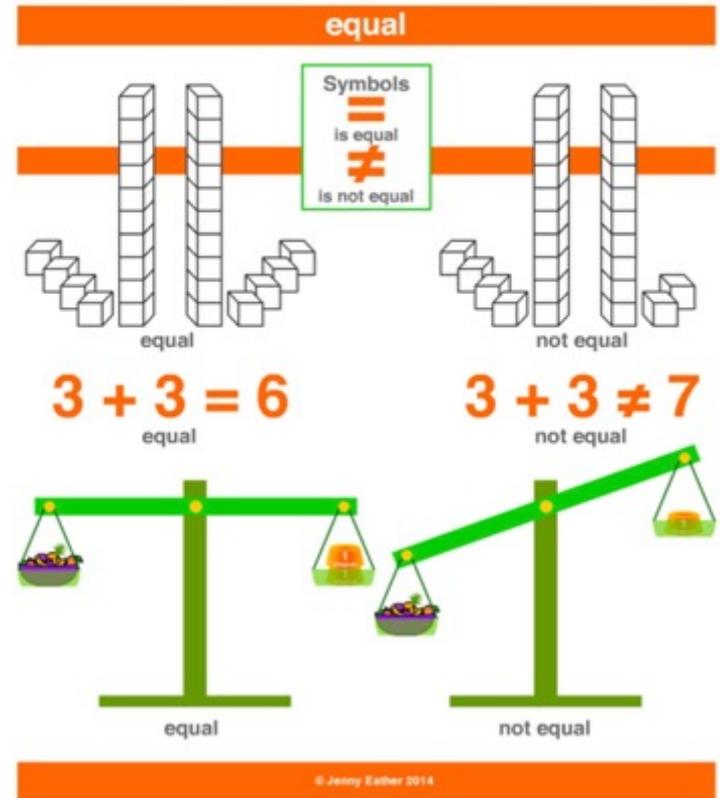


3. Have students create vocabulary cards



A green-bordered card titled "Zero Pair" with the subtitle "Two numbers when added together equal zero". At the top, three boxes illustrate zero pairs: 1 pair (1 yellow, 1 red), 2 pairs (2 yellow, 2 red), and 3 pairs (3 yellow, 3 red). Below each box is an equation: $1 + -1 = 0$, $2 + -2 = 0$, and $3 + -3 = 0$. A yellow speech bubble on the left says "Non-Example: $-2 + 4 \neq 0$ ". A blue starburst on the right says "Example: $1 + -1 = 0$ ".

6. Equal: having the same amount or value.



Visual aids for "equal" and "not equal".

equal

Symbols
= is equal
≠ is not equal

equal not equal

$3 + 3 = 6$ equal $3 + 3 \neq 7$ not equal

equal not equal

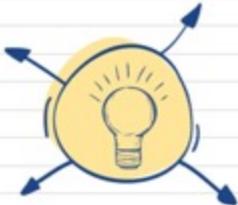
© Jenny Esther 2014

4. Have students create glossaries

Integer Definitions

Zero Pairs
A positive and negative cancel one another;

Positive
A number that is greater than zero.



Absolute Value
The distance of a number from zero on a number line; shown as $||$

Negative
A number that is less than zero. Identified by a minus sign.

Numerator: how many parts of the whole

- Ex. $\frac{4}{10}$

Odd number: a number not divided evenly by 2

- Ex. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9....

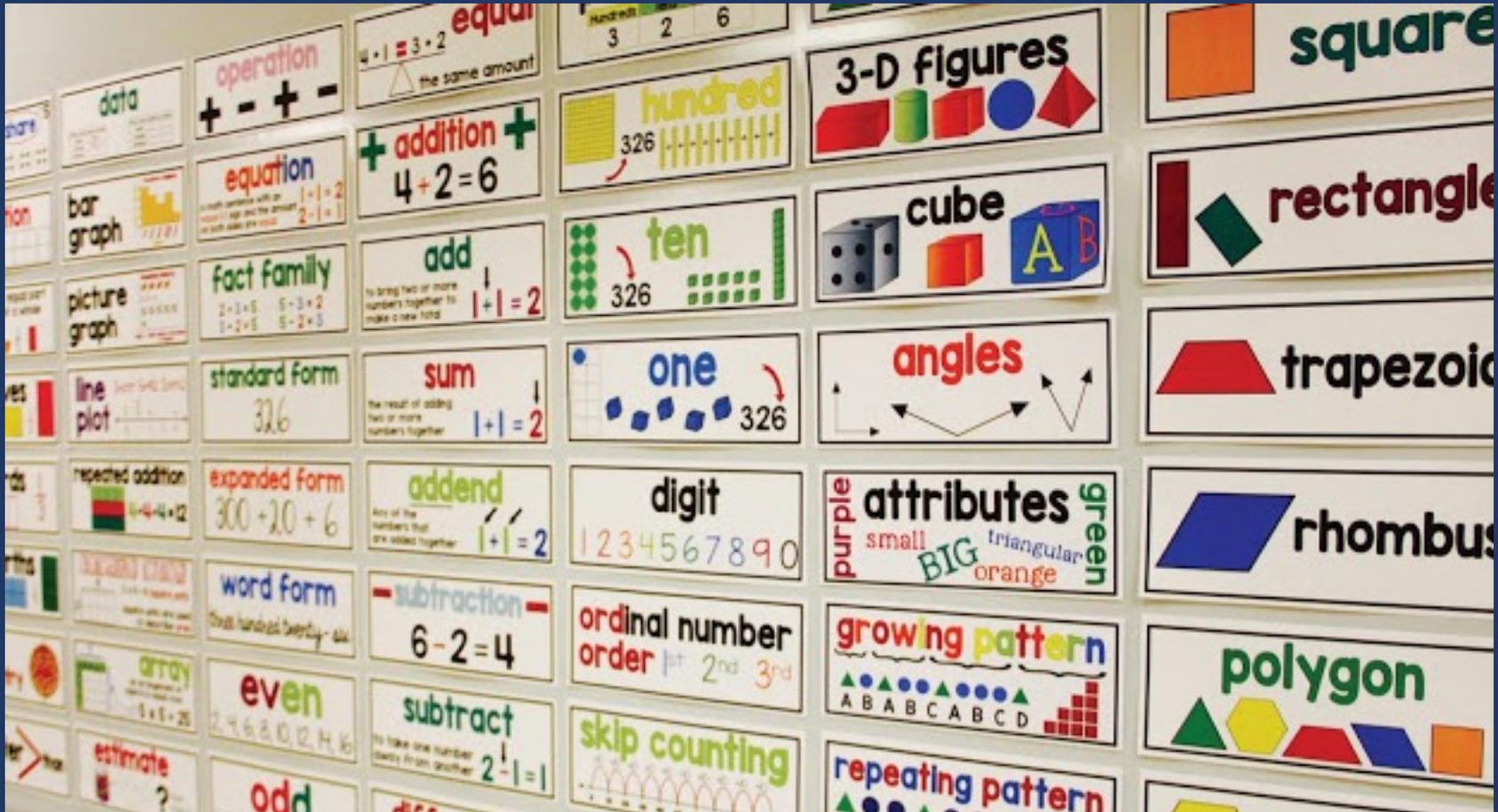
Percent: a specific number in comparison to 100

- 74%

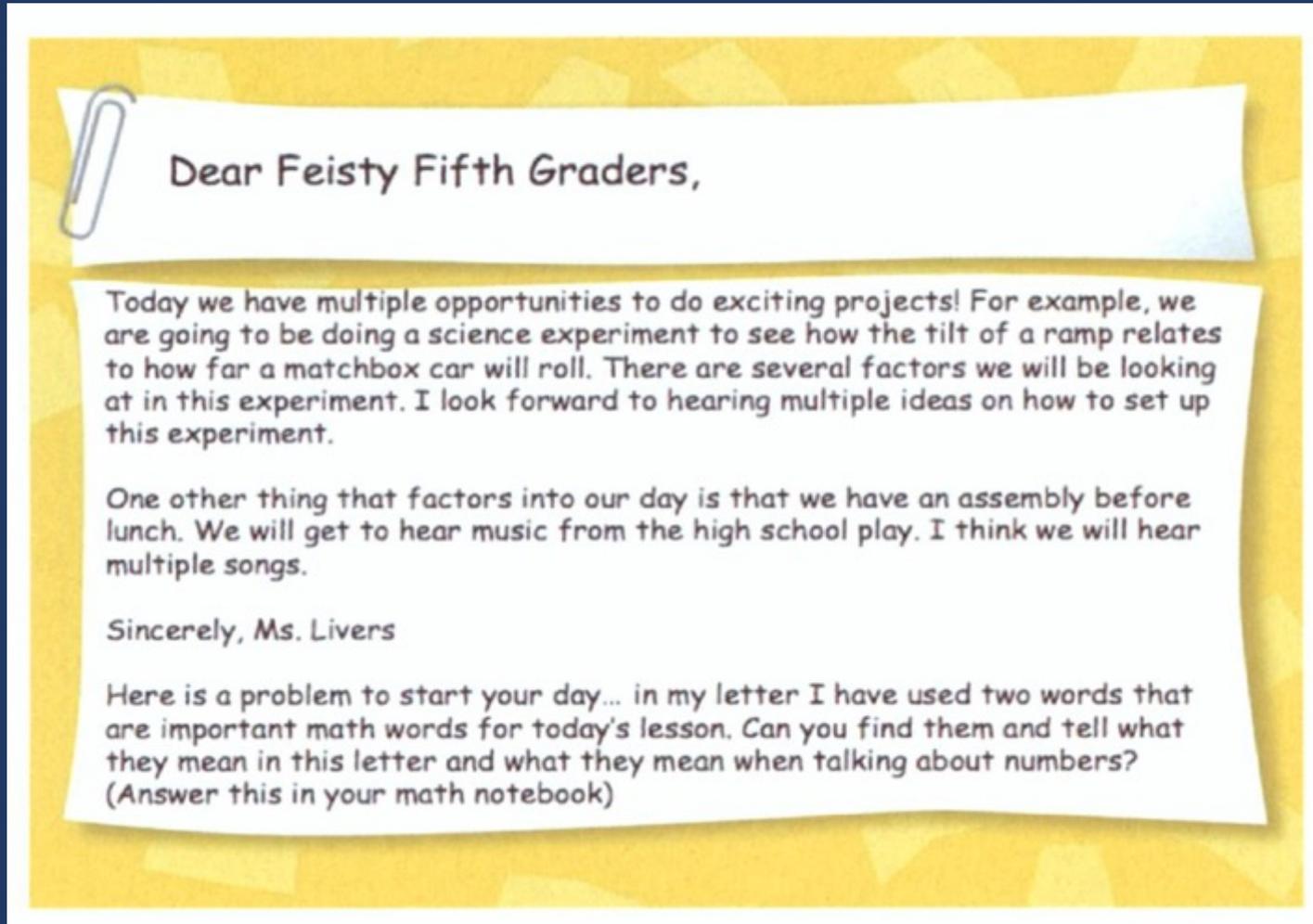
Polygon: any enclosed shape that is made up of 3 or more straight lines



5. Create a word wall



6. Preview vocabulary



Dear Feisty Fifth Graders,

Today we have multiple opportunities to do exciting projects! For example, we are going to be doing a science experiment to see how the tilt of a ramp relates to how far a matchbox car will roll. There are several factors we will be looking at in this experiment. I look forward to hearing multiple ideas on how to set up this experiment.

One other thing that factors into our day is that we have an assembly before lunch. We will get to hear music from the high school play. I think we will hear multiple songs.

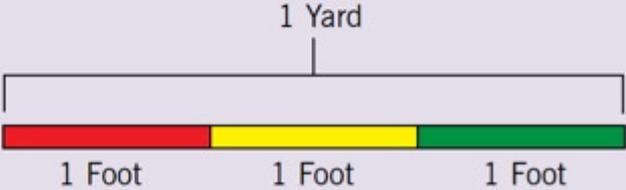
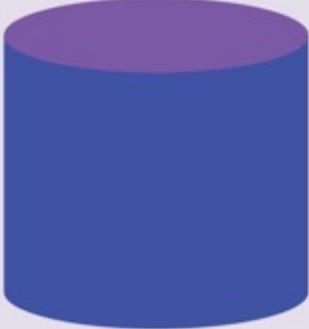
Sincerely, Ms. Livers

Here is a problem to start your day... in my letter I have used two words that are important math words for today's lesson. Can you find them and tell what they mean in this letter and what they mean when talking about numbers?
(Answer this in your math notebook)

Bay-Williams & Livers (2009)



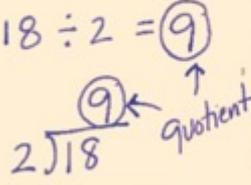
7. Cluster vocabulary

	Length	Weight
Meaning	How long something is	How heavy something is
Visual	 <p>1 Yard</p> <p>1 Foot 1 Foot 1 Foot</p>	<p>2000 pounds = 1 ton</p> 

Livers & Bay-Williams (2014)



7. Cluster vocabulary

Rating	Word	Definition	Synonym(s)	Example	Sample Problem
2	expression	a mathematical phrase combining operations, numbers and/or variables.	phrase algebraic expression	6 6n 6+n 	Lucia earns \$8 per hour for babysitting and gets a \$5 tip. Write an <u>expression</u> to represent the amount she would earn if she worked for x hours.
2	variable	a quantity that can change or take many values. (refers to the letter or symbol representing the quantity)	unknown	x D y T	The <u>variable</u> x represents the number of hours Charlie works in a week. Write an expression to represent his earnings if he earns \$9 per hour.
1	product	the result when two or more numbers are multiplied	total answer	$3 \times 2 = 6$ ↑ product	The <u>product</u> of 6 and a number is 24. What is the number?
3	quotient	the result of a division (refers to the number of times the divisor divides the dividend)	answer	$18 \div 2 = 9$ 	Estimate the <u>quotient</u> when 365 is divided by 12.

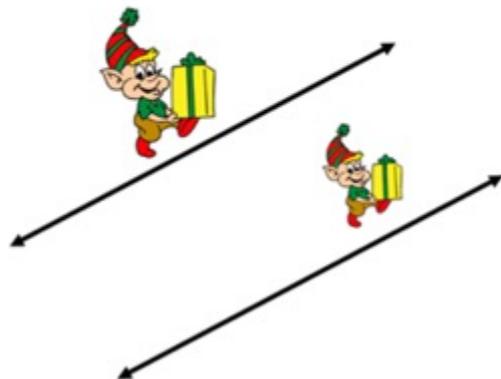
Marin (2018)



8. Use mnemonics

Parallel Lines (Pair of Elves)

Lines that are the same distance apart and will never intersect



The Pair of Elves are the same distance apart and will never intersect.

The Pair of Elves are on Parallel Lines

Ray (Run Away)

A line that has a starting point but no endpoint

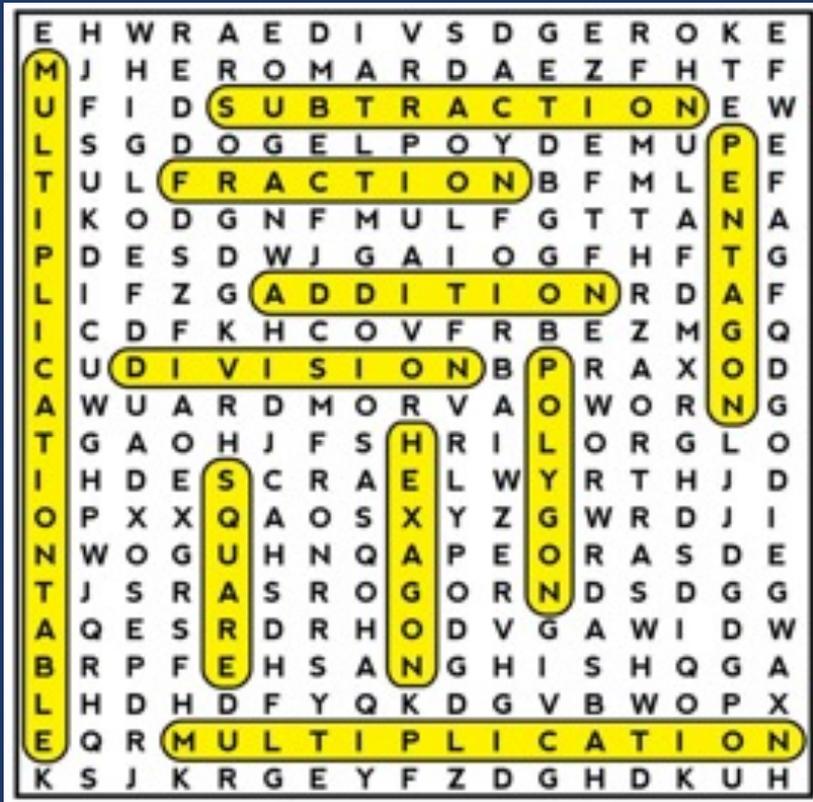


Start here!! Run away and never stop running Ray.

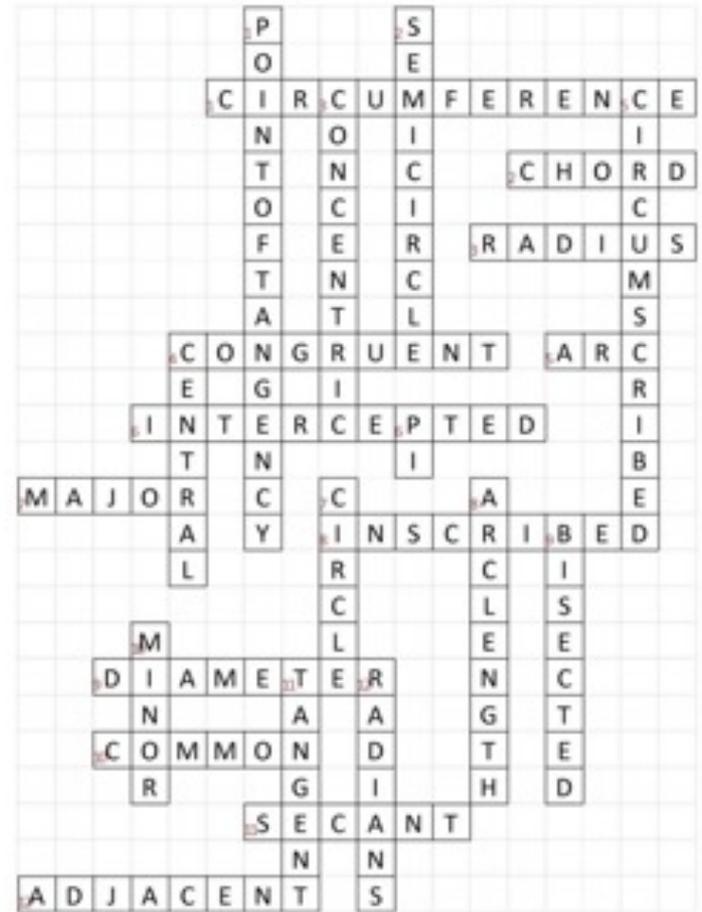
Riccomini et al. (2015)



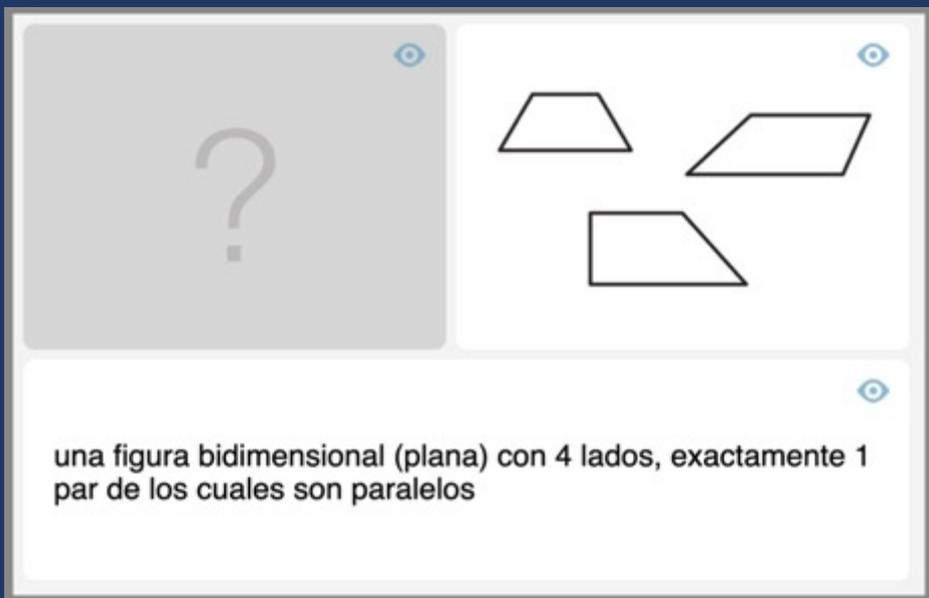
9. Do word games



CIRCLES VOCABULARY CROSSWORD ANSWER KEY



10. Use technology



una figura bidimensional (plana) con 4 lados, exactamente 1 par de los cuales son paralelos

Math Learning Center



Houghton Mifflin Math eGames **Math Lingo** Grade 2

How to Play New Game

60 minutes = 1 _____

change	minute hand	hour hand
hour	equal amounts	second
quarter-hour	half-hour	minute

Math Lingo



Use Terms With Precision

Strategies for Teaching Mathematics Language



Discuss your strategy for focusing on mathematical language in your teaching.



Fluency



Fluency



What is your mathematical language goal for the next 4 weeks?

What is your fluency goal for the next 4 weeks?



Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit
instruction

Precise
language

Multiple
representations

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency building



Building Fluency

Fluency is doing mathematics easily and accurately.

Fluency in mathematics makes mathematics easier.

Fluency provides less stress on working memory.

Fluency helps students build confidence with mathematics.

With fluency, it is important to emphasize both conceptual learning and procedural learning.



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Counting

Comparing numbers

Counting coins

Telling time

Identifying equivalent fractions

Identifying shapes

Knowing multiples

Knowing formulas



100 addition facts

Single-digit addends sum to a single- or double-digit number

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ + 4 \\ \hline 9 \end{array}$$

(addend)
(addend)
(sum)



100 subtraction facts

Subtrahend and difference are single-digit numbers and minuend is single- or double-digit number

$$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ - \quad 8 \\ \hline 8 \end{array}$$

(minuend)
(subtrahend)
(difference)



100 multiplication facts

Multiplication of single-digit factors results in a single- or double-digit product

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline 6 \end{array}$$

(factor)
(factor)
(product)



90 division facts

Divisor and quotient are single-digit numbers
and dividend is single- or double-digit number

$$8 \div 4 = 2$$

(dividend) (divisor) (quotient)



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with math facts.

- Addition: single-digit addends
- Subtraction: single-digit subtrahend
- Multiplication: single-digit factors
- Division: single-digit divisor

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ + 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ - 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ \div 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Cover, Copy, Compare

$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 54 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline 48 \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline 56 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline 30 \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline 81 \end{array}$	
$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline 42 \end{array}$	
$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline 64 \end{array}$	

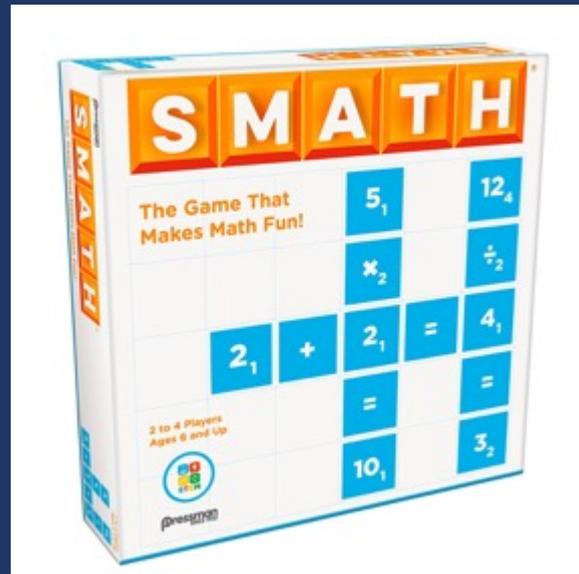
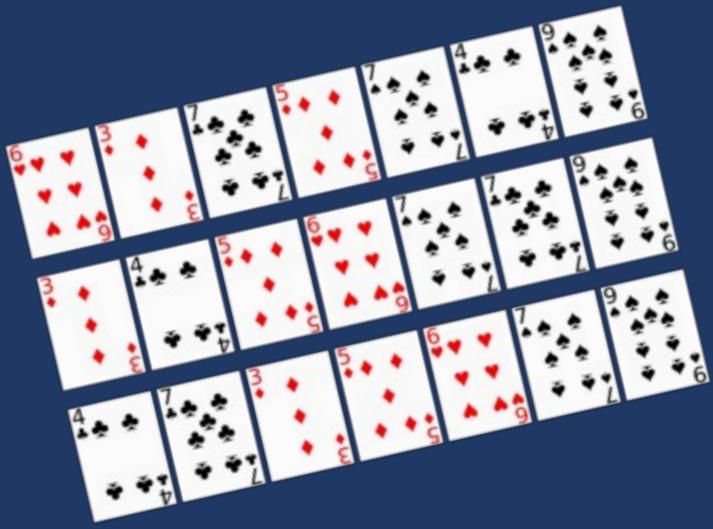
File Folder

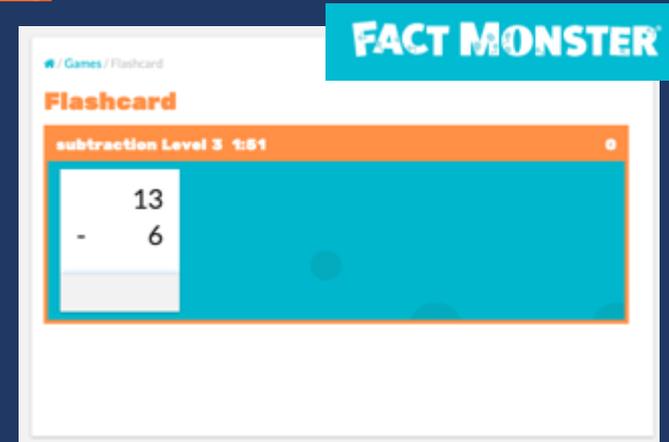
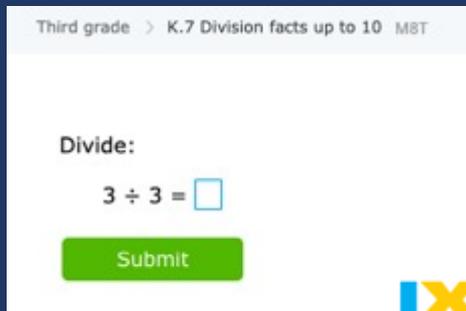
$6+3=$	9
$1+7=$	8
$6+4=$	10
$7+3=$	10
$2+7=$	9
$5+6=$	11
$4+7=$	11
$7+8=$	15
$6+7=$	13
$7+9=$	16
$7+6=$	13
$8+7=$	15
$7+0=$	7
$9+6=$	15
$6+0=$	6
$6+8=$	14

Taped Problems

$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 7 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 9 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$
$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 8 \\ \hline \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 7 \\ \hline \end{array}$







Reflex

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Help your students attain math fact fluency success whether in-person, remote, or through hybrid learning

Game-based system to improve math fact fluency for grades 2-6 in less than 30 days!

A video thumbnail for 'Crabby's Fact Fair' showing a fairground with a sign that says 'CRABBY'S FACT FAIR'.

DAILY and BRIEF



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with whole-number computation

$$\begin{array}{r} 15 \\ + 28 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 23 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1009 \\ - 724 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7250 \\ \div 15 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with rational-number computation

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.4 \\ + 3.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\frac{9}{4} - \frac{3}{8}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7.892 \\ \div 0.14 \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division

Build fluency with integer computation

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.4 \\ + -3.9 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times -12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$-14 - (-7) =$$

$$-135 \div 2 =$$



Addition	Subtraction
Multiplication	Division



What fluency practice do your students need?



Instructional Platform

INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY

Explicit
instruction

Precise
language

Multiple
representations

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

Fluency building

Problem solving
instruction





What is your mathematical language goal for the next 4 weeks?



What is your fluency goal for the next 4 weeks?





Schedule for This Year

September 19	Mathematics Language and Fluency
October 17	High-Quality Tier 1
December 5	Leveraging Word Problems – Part 1
January 26	Leveraging Word Problems – Part 2
February 16	High-Quality Mathematics Assessment
March 16	High-Quality Supports in Mathematics – Putting It Together



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