EUREKA MATH™ TIPS FOR PARENTS

KEY CONCEPT OVERVIEW

In Lessons 29 through 34, students add and subtract fractions and mixed numbers by using different strategies. (See Sample Problem.)

You can expect to see homework that asks your child to do the following:

- Estimate the sum or difference of two mixed numbers (e.g., $2\frac{1}{12} + 1\frac{7}{8} \approx 4$).
- Add a mixed number and a fraction (e.g., $2\frac{1}{5} + \frac{4}{5}$).
- Add mixed numbers (e.g., $2\frac{2}{3} + 1\frac{2}{3}$).
- Subtract a fraction from a mixed number (e.g., $3\frac{4}{6} - \frac{5}{6}$).
- Subtract mixed numbers (e.g., $5\frac{3}{10} - 4\frac{7}{10}$).

SAMPLE PROBLEM *(From Lesson 34)*

Solve by using any strategy.
NOTE: The strategy used here to solve this problem, decompose the total, is just one possible strategy. Other strategies include the **arrow way** or using different number bonds/decomposition.

$7\frac{3}{8} - 4\frac{5}{8}$

$$7\frac{3}{8} - 4\frac{5}{8} = 2\frac{6}{8}$$

$$6 \quad \frac{11}{8}$$

Additional sample problems with detailed answer steps are found in the *Eureka Math Homework Helpers* books. Learn more at GreatMinds.org.

HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- Ask your child to teach you the strategy she most prefers for adding and subtracting fractions. Ask her to explain why she thinks it's better than other strategies.
- Practice decomposing, or taking apart, a mixed number. Write a mixed number on a piece of paper. Prompt your child to take one from the total, rename it in fractional form, and then add it to the mixed number that remains (e.g., $5\frac{3}{5} = 4\frac{3}{5} + \frac{5}{5} = 4\frac{8}{5}$). Decompositions such as this help students with the strategy of decomposing the total before subtracting (e.g., $5\frac{3}{5} - \frac{4}{5} = 4\frac{8}{5} - \frac{4}{5} = 4\frac{4}{5}$).

MODELS

Arrow Way

$$4\frac{3}{8} - 3\frac{5}{8} = \frac{6}{8}$$

$$3\frac{5}{8} \xrightarrow{+\frac{3}{8}} 4 \xrightarrow{+\frac{3}{8}} 4\frac{3}{8}$$