Adding/Subtracting on the Number Line

ADDITION PROBLEMS

Start at zero. Face in the positive direction.

- If the first number is positive, walk forward.
- If the first number is negative, walk backwards.

To indicate addition, continue facing in the positive direction.

- If the second number is positive, walk forward.
- If the second number is negative, walk backwards.

SUBTRACTION PROBLEMS

Start at zero. Face in the positive direction.

- If the first number is positive, walk forward.
- If the first number is negative, walk backwards.

To indicate subtraction, turn around to face the opposite direction.

- If the second number is positive, walk forward.
- If the second number is negative, walk backwards.

Multiplying on the Number Line

Start at zero.

- If the first number is positive, face in the positive direction.
- If the first number is negative, face in the negative direction.

Determine whether you will walk forwards or backwards.

- If the second number is positive, walk forward.
- If the second number is negative, walk backwards.

The first number tells you how many steps to take. The second number tells you the length of each step.

Dividing on the Number Line

Start at the first number. Face towards zero.

- If the second number is positive, continue facing towards zero.
- If the second number is negative, turn around to face the opposite direction.

The second number tells you what size step you will be taking. Determine how many steps you must take to reach zero.

- If you were walking forward, your answer is positive.
- If you were walking backwards, your answer is negative.