

Tammy Lorain
Intro to Integer Subtraction
Calculations and Estimations
Understanding the Relationship between positive and negative integers.
CIM
Grades 9 - 12
Ch.2 Section 4 Integer Subtraction
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Subtraction of Integers

Task

You have a deck of cards, 11 Blue backed cards and 11 Red backed cards, shuffle both sets of cards together and deal them out face down on the table. Take turns selecting a card of each color and write a subtraction equation.

Write the equation so that it is the Blue card minus the red card. Again, subtract the number on the Red card from the number on the Blue card. Note: the black numbered cards are positive numbers and the red numbered cards are negative numbers.

Jokers are Zeros. Record all of your equations and solutions. (Use a calculator to check your answers.)

Now look at solutions you have found. What are the characteristics of the equations that have positive solutions? Show and explain your thinking process.

Now go back and look at the equations that have negative solutions. What are the characteristics of these solutions? Show and explain your thinking process.

After completing the task make some generalizations that will fit **ALL** the solutions for all of your subtraction equations.