

Unit 4: Expressions and More Equations

Family Resources for Math 7B/8 Unit 4: Expressions and More Equations

The Power of a Growth Mindset in Learning

A student's success is shaped not only by what they learn, but also by how they think about learning. A **growth mindset** is the belief that abilities can develop through effort, practice, and persistence. Students with this mindset view challenges as opportunities to grow, see mistakes as learning opportunities, and understand that improvement comes with time and effort.

When students believe their abilities are fixed, they may avoid challenges or become discouraged when learning is difficult. In contrast, a growth mindset encourages the belief:

"I may not understand this yet, but I can learn it."

Students with a Growth Mindset...		Families Can Help By...
 Embrace challenges		 Praising effort, not just results
 Learn from mistakes		 Normalizing challenges
 Keep trying		 Reflecting on mistakes
 Use different strategies		 Encouraging problem-solving
 Build confidence through progress		 Modeling lifelong learning
		 Celebrating persistence
		 Creating a supportive learning environment

A Lasting Foundation for Success

A growth mindset is more than a classroom idea—it is a life skill. When students believe they can grow and improve, they become more confident, independent, and willing to take on new challenges. This mindset supports not only academic success, but also perseverance and adaptability in all areas of life. By reinforcing these ideas at home and in school, we help students build a strong foundation: one where learning is seen as an ongoing journey, and every challenge is an opportunity to grow.



For additional information and resources to support at home, please visit the [Office of Mathematics website](#).

Big Ideas in Unit 4

- Within this unit, students will learn these big ideas:
- Writing Equivalent Expressions
- Equivalent Equations
- Linear Equations in One Variable

For more details about this unit, see [Unit 4 Family Resources](#).

Lesson Specific Resources

Use the links below to learn about the learning from each lesson.

Lesson Link
4.1 Subtraction in Equivalent Expressions
4.2 Expanding and Factoring
4.3 Combining Like Terms (Part 1)
4.4 Combining Like Terms (Part 2)
4.5 Keeping the Equation Balanced
4.6 Balanced Moves
4.7 More Balanced Moves
4.8 Solving Any Linear Equation
4.9 Strategic Solving
4.10 All, Some, or No Solutions
4.11 How Many Solutions?
4.12 Applications of Expressions