

Add and Subtract Parts of a Whole

Justin has $\frac{3}{8}$ pound of cheddar cheese and $\frac{2}{8}$ pound of brick cheese. How much cheese does he have in all?

Step 1 Use fraction strips to model the problem. Use three $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips to represent $\frac{3}{8}$ pound of cheddar cheese.

Step 2 Join two more $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips to represent the amount of brick cheese.

Step 3 Count the number of $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips. There are five $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips. Write the amount as a fraction. Justin has $\frac{5}{8}$ pound of cheese.

$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$$

Step 4 Use the model to write an equation.

Suppose Justin eats $\frac{1}{8}$ pound of cheese. How much cheese is left?

Step 1 Use five $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips to represent the $\frac{5}{8}$ pound of cheese.

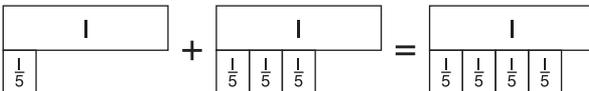
Step 2 Remove one $\frac{1}{8}$ -strip to show the amount eaten.

Step 3 Count the number of $\frac{1}{8}$ -strips left. There are four $\frac{1}{8}$ fraction strips. There is $\frac{4}{8}$ pound left.

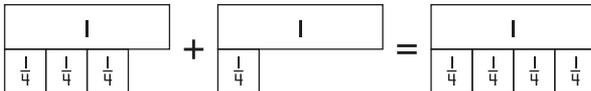
$$\frac{5}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{4}{8}$$

Step 4 Write an equation for the model.

Use the model to write an equation.

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