

Equal Sign Detectives

Students decide which equations are true and solve for missing numbers.

CCSS.Math.Content.1.OA.D "Work with addition and subtraction equations."

NAME _____

DATE _____

Teacher: this page is run aloud. The script and answers are on the guide page.

1 TRUE EQUATION

a

$$3+2=4$$

$$3+2=5$$

$$3+2=6$$

b

$$7-3=4$$

$$7-3=5$$

$$7-3=3$$

c

$$5+1=7$$

$$5+1=5$$

$$5+1=6$$

2 MISSING NUMBER

$$3+?=8$$

$$9-?=4$$

$$?+2=6$$

HOW TO RUN THIS PAGE

Tell students that the equal sign means “the same as,” using a different example such as $2 + 6 = 8$. Read every choice aloud, and have students compare the amounts on both sides of each equal sign.

Students never read directions on this sheet. Read each part's script aloud, then each prompt, giving think time before students mark.

PART 1 • TRUE EQUATION

SAY “Listen to each equation in the row. Which equation is true, or has the same amount on both sides of the equal sign? Circle it.”

ROW	SAY	STUDENTS CIRCLE
a	Three plus two equals four. Three plus two equals five. Three plus two equals six. Which equation is true? Circle it.	$3+2=5$
b	Seven minus three equals four. Seven minus three equals five. Seven minus three equals three. Which equation is true? Circle it.	$7-3=4$
c	Five plus one equals seven. Five plus one equals five. Five plus one equals six. Which equation is true? Circle it.	$5+1=6$

PART 2 • MISSING NUMBER

SAY “Look at each equation with a question mark. What number can you write in each box so both sides of the equal sign are the same?”

- Box 1 (beside $3+?=8$): **5**
- Box 2 (beside $9-?=4$): **5**
- Box 3 (beside $?+2=6$): **4**

WHAT TO ACCEPT

Circle $3+2=5$, $7-3=4$, and $5+1=6$. Accept the digits 5, 5, and 4 in the missing-number boxes.