Topic A:

Use Properties of Operations to Generate Equivalent Expressions

7.EE.A.1, 7.EE.A.2

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| Focus Standards: | 7.EE.A.1 | Apply properties of operations as strategies to add, subtract, factor, and expand linear expressions with rational coefficients. |
|  | 7.EE.A.2 | Understand that rewriting an expression in different forms in a problem context can shed light on the problem and how the quantities in it are related. *For example, means that “increase by ” is the same as “multiply by .”* |
| Instructional Days: | 6 |  |
| Lessons 1–2: | Generating Equivalent Expressions (P)[[1]](#footnote-1) | |
| Lessons 3–4: | Writing Products as Sums and Sums as Products (P) | |
| Lesson 5: | Using the Identity and Inverse to Write Equivalent Expressions (P) | |
| Lesson 6: | Collecting Rational Number Like Terms (P) | |

In Lesson 1 of Topic A, students write equivalent expressions by finding sums and differences extending the *any order* (commutative property) and *any grouping* (associative property) to collect like terms and rewrite algebraic expressions in standard form (**7.EE.A.1**). In Lesson 2, students rewrite products in standard form by applying the commutative property to rearrange like items (numeric coefficients, like variables) next to each other and rewrite division as multiplying by the multiplicative inverse. Lessons 3 and 4 have students using a rectangular array and the distributive property as they first multiply one term by a sum of two or more terms to expand a product to a sum, and then reverse the process to rewrite the sum as a product of the GCF and a remaining factor. Students model real-world problems with expressions and see how writing in one form versus another helps them to understand how the quantities are related (**7.EE.A.2**). In Lesson 5, students recognize that detecting inverses and the identity properties of for addition and for multiplication allows for ease in rewriting equivalent expressions. This topic culminates with Lesson 6 with students applying repeated use of the distributive property as they collect like terms containing fractional coefficients to rewrite rational number expressions.

1. Lesson Structure Key: **P**-Problem Set Lesson, **M**-Modeling Cycle Lesson, **E-**Exploration Lesson, **S-**Socratic Lesson [↑](#footnote-ref-1)