COMPARING AND RELATING NUMBERS

You can use symbols to compare #s.

> **greater than**

< **less than**

The arrow always points to the smaller amount.

$45 < 87$

$5{,}504 > 5{,}405$

These comparisons are called **inequalities**. They tell about values that are not equal.

You can also use symbols to compare **expressions**.

$4 + 8$

$15 \div 3$

An **expression** shows uses #s and symbols to show how they relate.

$3 \times 8 > 20 + 1$

$9 + 10 < 30 - 5$

$205 > 189 > 74$

You can use symbols to show that values are not equal OR close in size.

≠ **not equal**

≈ **about equal**

$49 + 49 \neq 100$

$49 + 49 \approx 100$

Some **expressions** help you find the **sum** of #s.

A sum is a **total**.

9 and 3

sum – 12

Some **expressions** help you find the **difference** of #s.

A difference tells **how far apart #s are**.

9 and 3

difference – 6

An **equation** is a number sentence that shows equal values.

$9 \times 3 = 27$

$9 \div 3 = 3$

$9 + 3 = 6 + 6$