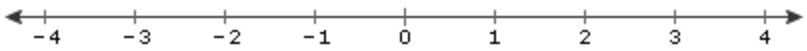
Vocabulary: Rational Numbers, Opposites, and Absolute Values

Vocabulary

- Absolute value – the distance of a number from zero on the number line.
  - The symbol of absolute value is vertical bars.
    - For example |7| = 7 means "the absolute value of seven is seven."
  - The absolute value does not depend on the sign of the number.
    - For example, the absolute value of both –7 and 7 is 7.
  - Absolute value is never negative.
- Inequality – a statement showing that one number is greater than (>) or less than (<) another number.
  - For example, 5 < 9 is an inequality stating that 5 is less than 9.
- Number line – a line with numbers marked at equal intervals.



- Opposite – a number that is the same distance from zero, but on the other side of zero, as a given number.
  - For example, 7 is the opposite of –7, and –2 is the opposite of 2.
  - A number and its opposite always add up to zero.
- Rational number – a number that is equal to the ratio of two integers.
  - All fractions are rational numbers because they are the ratios of integers.
    - For example, $\frac{2}{3}$ is the ratio of 2 and 3.
  - All integers are rational numbers because they can be written as fractions with denominator 1.
    - For example, –4 = $\frac{-4}{1}$, or the ratio of –4 and 1.