Problem of the Week

The four operations are often considered a cornerstone to number sense. And, when working with operations, it can be advantageous for students to consider equality amongst expressions. The tasks are meant to be open-ended so that discussion can support understanding.

Be mindful that during these prompts, it is important the teacher listens to student conversations and asks questions that illicit student thinking.

Primary	There is an expression on both sides of the equal sign. Each number is made with different digits from 0-9. One side of the equal sign has both an addition and subtraction sign while the other side only has one sign. What could the equation be?
Extension	The digits 0-9 are all used only one time. Different number of signs on either side of the equal sign.

Elementary	There is an expression on both sides of the equal sign. There are both whole numbers and decimal numbers. One side of the equal sign has both multiplication and subtraction while the other side only has one operation. What could the equation be?
Extension	Each of the digits can only be used up to two times. Different number of signs on either side of the equal sign.

Intermediate	There is an expression on both sides of the equal sign. There are both proper and improper fractions. One side of the equal sign has both multiplication and subtraction while the other side only has one operation. What could the equation be?
Extension	Each digit can only be used one time. Different number of signs on either side of the equal sign.

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