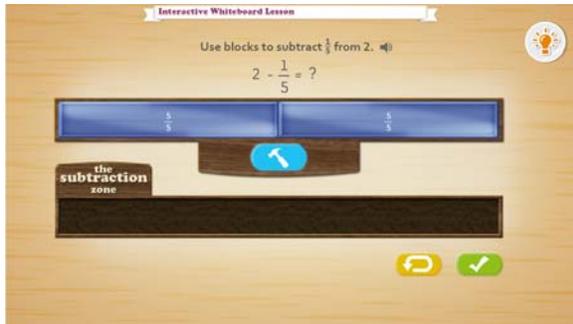# Subtracting Fractions
A DreamBox Learning® Mini-Lesson

In this DreamBox lesson, students use the hammer to break one or both fraction tiles into smaller increments. They will then drag the fraction tiles into the subtraction zone to solve the equation.

The interactive whiteboard tool for this lesson can be found on our website under Resources and Teacher Tools: DreamBox.com/teachertools

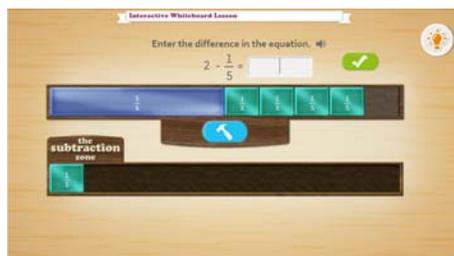| Sample Lesson	
Objective	Using the "removal" or "take away" representation, this tool helps students learn to subtract fractions.
Background	Students should have background knowledge of equivalent fractions.
Instructions	1. Open the lesson on an interactive whiteboard or data projector and have a student click on the hammer to break one of the fraction tiles. Discuss as a class if the student should break both tiles. Possible responses: a) We only need to break one tile because we are removing a number that is less does not have a one in front. b) We need to break more than one tile because the number we are taking away is has a 1 in front. c) We are subtracting a fraction that is less than one so we only need to break one tile.

Adapted from: Fosnot & Dolk. (_add date here_). "Addition and Subtraction Facts on the Horizon." *Young Mathematicians at Work: Constructing Number Sense, Addition, and Subtraction* (Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann), p. 106.

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2. Then have a class discussion involving different strategies to determine how many tiles to remove or take away and place in the subtraction zone.

3. Students will need a partner to solve the equation, share the strategies with the class and answer the problem.

4. Have students identify the mistakes, if any, and make corrections.
5. Repeat the activity with more problems, giving multiple students an opportunity to share their answers and explanations.

Adapted from: Fosnot & Dolk. (_add date here_). "Addition and Subtraction Facts on the Horizon." *Young Mathematicians at Work: Constructing Number Sense, Addition, and Subtraction* (Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann), p. 106.