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| **Content: Solving Simple Two-Step Equations of the Form *ax* + *b* = *c*** | | | |
| Solves one-step equations using number sense only  “If *x* + 3 is 9, *x* must be 6.” | Solves two-step equations using models only  5 + 2*x* = 11  “I used algebra tiles to represent the equation. There are 5 unit tiles with the x tiles, so I removed 5 unit tiles from both sides. There are 2 x tiles, so I split the tiles on the right side into two equal groups to get the value of one x.” | Solves two-step equations algebraically and checks their solutions  “I solved the equation by first subtracting 5 from each side, then dividing both sides by 2. I substituted the answer back into the equation to see if it balanced.” | Chooses the solution method they think best fits a given equation; makes connections between solution using the model and algebraic solution  “Subtracting 5 from both sides is the same as removing 5 blocks from both pans of the pan balance. Dividing both sides by 2 is the same as dividing the contents of each pan into two equal groups and taking one of those groups.” |
| **Observations/Documentation** | | | |
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| **Competency: Connecting** | | | |
| Connects a one-step equation to a missing value problem (e.g., a missing addend or subtrahend problem)  “I can think of *x* + 5 = 8 as what number plus 5 is the same as 8.” | Connects similar types of models, such as a pan balance and algebra tiles  “When I take away 5 unit tiles from both sides, it’s like when I remove 5 blocks from both pans of the pan balance.” | Connects models to the algebraic method of solving    “When I take away 5 unit tiles from both sides, it is the same as subtracting 5 from both sides of the equation.” | Connects algebraic solution methods for equations involving lesser whole numbers to solution paths for equations involving greater numbers or other numbers that cannot be easily modelled  “Just like I can subtract 5 from both sides to isolate the variable term, I can subtract 5.7 or , or 57 from both sides.” |
| **Observations/Documentation** | | | |
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