

Lesson 7-3

Reinforce Understanding

Understand Absolute Value of Rational Numbers

I can find the absolute value of a rational number — an integer, fraction, or decimal — as its distance from zero.

Worked model

One freezer logged -23 degrees and another logged 17 degrees. Which reading sits closer to 0?

1. Absolute value measures distance from 0, so the sign does not matter here.
2. Distance from 0 for the first reading: $-23 = 23$
3. Distance from 0 for the second reading: $17 = 17$
4. Compare the two distances; the shorter distance sits closer to 0.

Answer: $|-23|$

Practice

Complete each exercise. Show the reasoning that supports your answer.

1. Match each integer to its absolute value.

Write the letter of the matching item on each line.

1. _____ -5
2. _____ 3
3. _____ -8
4. _____ 0
5. _____ -1
6. _____ 7

- A5
- B3
- C8
- D0
- E1
- F7

2. Plot these integers on the number line: $-6, -2, 0, 4, 7$

Mark and label each value on the number line.

Show your thinking
