## Focus Area Topic F:

Addition and Subtraction of Fractions by Decomposition Addition and Subtraction of Fractions
Topic F provides students with the opportunity to use their understandings of fractions as they explore addition and subtraction of mixed number.
In this example, we will count up using the arrow way.


Students learn to subtract mixed numbers by decomposing the total into a mixed number and an improper fraction to either subtract a fraction or a mixed number.
In this example, the student decomposes to subtract one mixed number from another mixed number.

$$
11 \frac{1}{5}-2 \frac{3}{5}
$$

We begin by subtracting: 11 -2 $=9$ the whole numbers first.

Then we used a number bond to decompose $9 \frac{1}{5}$ into $8, \frac{5}{5}$, and $\frac{1}{5}$.
The fractions $\frac{5}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$ can be composed to make $\frac{6}{5}$.
$8 \frac{6}{5}-\frac{3}{5}=8 \frac{3}{5}$
Now $\frac{3}{5}$ can be subtracted from $\frac{6}{5}$

$$
11 \frac{1}{5}-2 \frac{3}{5}=8 \frac{3}{5}
$$

