|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Variables and Symbols** | | | |
| Uses equal sign as balance (left side equals right side) and not equal sign as imbalance  18 + 16 = 10 + 24  18 + 16 ≠ 24 – 10  “The equal sign means that the numbers on both sides are worth the same amount.” | Uses symbols to represent unknown quantities  18 + 🞏 = 34  “I used a box to represent the unknown, but I could have used a different shape.” | Understands the unknown represents one quantity/value  18 + 🞏 = 34  “The box represents a number that would be added to 18 to make 34. No matter what  the symbol is, it will always represent 16.” | Solves equations flexibly  18 + 🞏 = 34 34 − 🞏 = 18  34 – 18 = 🞏  “In all of these equations, the symbol represents the same number, 16.” |
| **Observations/Documentation** | | | |
|  |  |  |  |