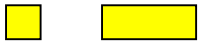
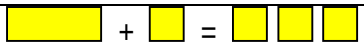
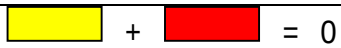
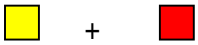
Integers

Integers are simply the set of all negative and positive whole numbers. We use integers when we talk about the weather, finances, sports, geography, and science.

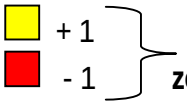
Let's take a look at some of the vocabulary we need to know:

Word	Definition	Examples/Picture
Unit tile	A tile that represents +1 or –1	
Variable tile	A tile that represents a variable (unknown number represented using a letter such as x, y, c, etc.)	
Algebra tile	A collective term for unit tiles and variable tiles	
Algebraic expression	A mathematical expression containing a variable	 X + 1 = 3
Negative integer	Any whole number less than zero	 -1, -5, -48, -13958
Positive integer	Any whole number greater than zero	 +1, +8, +58, +193920
Zero pair	Two opposite numbers whose sum is equal to zero	 = 0  = 0

We can use yellow tiles to represent positive integers and red tiles to represent negative integers.

One yellow unit tile  can represent +1 and one red unit tile  can represent –1.

One yellow unit tile can combine with one red unit tile to model 0:
We call this a zero pair.



We can model any integer in many different ways.

Example: Use algebra tiles to model –7 in three different ways.