Absolute Value

Absolute value bars are a grouping symbol that has no meaning to students, so instead we call them super powered parenthesis. Because we treat them like parenthesis, and they have a super power that allows them to do to something special. Their super power is that they change everything inside of them into a positive. Once they use their super power the straight up and down bars lose their power and become regular parenthesis.

Example: $-\left|-8+2\right| \rightarrow -1\left|-6\right| \rightarrow -1\left(6\right) \rightarrow -6$

Practice Absolute Value Problems:

- Simplify: $-\left|-6+1\right| + \sqrt[5]{32} - 7^0$

- Simplify: $-\left|-4+3\right| - 2\left|-2-3\right| + 3\left|-7\right|$

  ○ It can be challenging to tell what is inside the bars. Building houses makes it very clear. Start at the first bar and draw a roof between the first and second bars. Be sure to leave room for the yard and then build another house.

  Like this: $-\overbrace{\left|-4+3\right|} - 2\overbrace{\left|-2-3\right|} + 3\overbrace{\left|-7\right|}$

- Simplify: $-5\left|-1-1\right| - 3\left|-4+8\right| - \left|-9\right| - 4$

- Simplify: $-\left|-2-1\right|^3 - \left|-3(-2-2)-5\right| - \left|-4+6\right|$

- Simplify: $-3^0 - \left|-3-3\right| - 2\left|-8+9\right| + 3\left|-5+8\right|^3$