

Negative Numbers

There are special numbers associated with the positive numbers that are called the additive inverses. These are numbers that when added to a positive number will give 0 as the result.

Ex.

$$4 + \text{something} = 0$$

$$\text{something} = -4, \text{ therefore } 4 + -4 = 0$$

$$6.6 + -6.6 = 0$$

$$1024 + -1024 = 0$$

These additive inverses of positive numbers are called negative numbers. Many of us are familiar with negative numbers when we look at our checking accounts (the US Government).