Lesson 15 Summary

To solve the equation x + 8 = -5, we can add the opposite of 8, or -8, to each side:

$$x + 8 = -5$$

 $(x + 8) + -8 = (-5) + -8$
 $x = -13$

Because adding the opposite of a number is the same as subtracting that number, we can also think of it as subtracting 8 from each side.

We can use the same approach for this equation:

$$-12 = t + -\frac{2}{9}$$

$$(-12) + \frac{2}{9} = \left(t + -\frac{2}{9}\right) + \frac{2}{9}$$

$$-11\frac{7}{9} = t$$

To solve the equation 8x = -5, we can multiply each side by the reciprocal of 8, or $\frac{1}{8}$:

$$8x = -5$$

$$\frac{1}{8}(8x) = \frac{1}{8}(-5)$$

$$x = -\frac{5}{8}$$

Because multiplying by the reciprocal of a number is the same as dividing by that number, we can also think of it as dividing by 8. We can use the same approach for this equation:

$$-12 = -\frac{2}{9}t
-\frac{9}{2}(-12) = -\frac{9}{2}(-\frac{2}{9}t)
54 = t$$