X's Adventure in Number Town

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Welcome to Number Town, a cheerful place where everyone lives on a long, winding road called the number line. Right in the very middle, with a big, friendly smile, stood Zero, the heart of the town. Everyone in Number Town measured their distance from Zero.
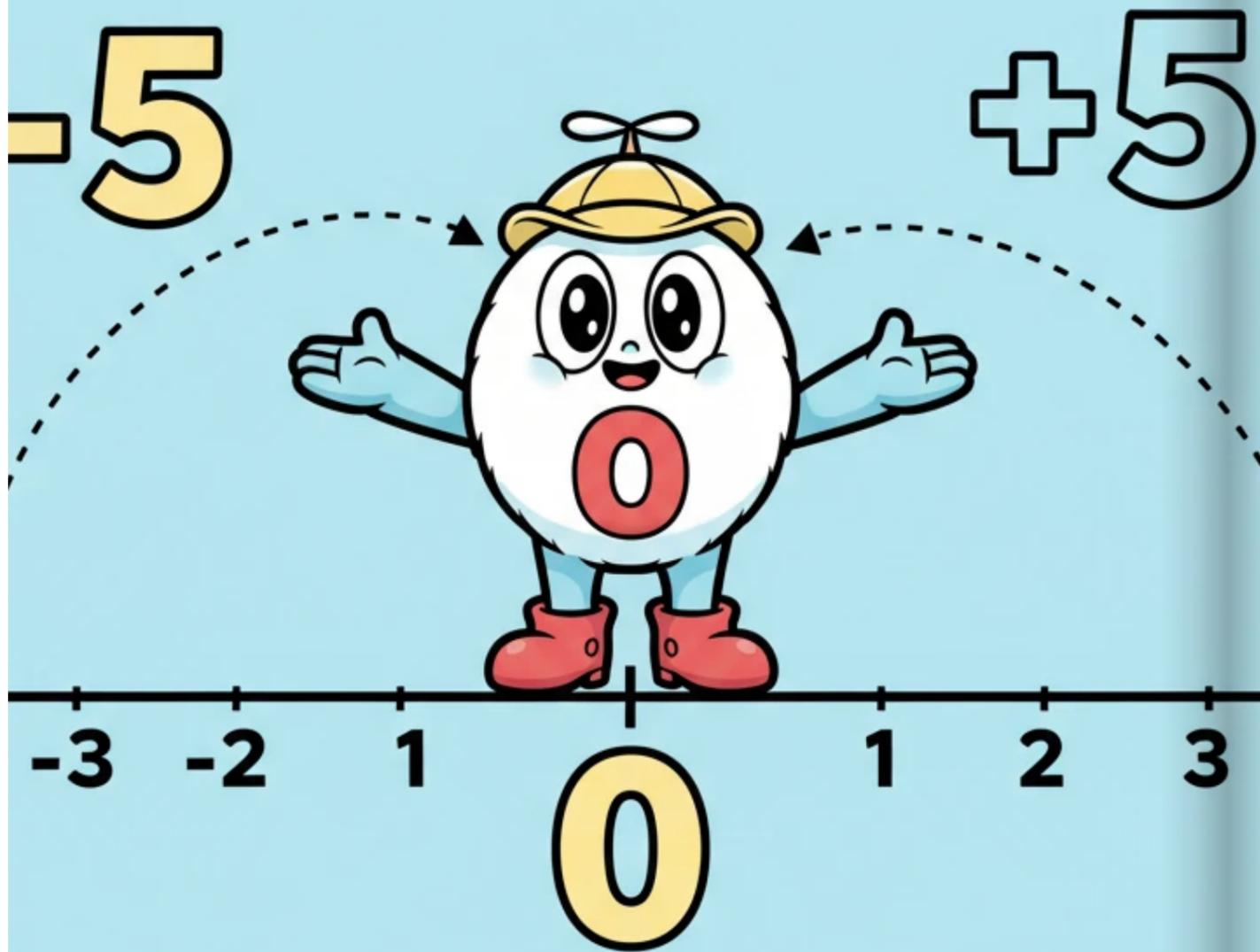
$(X) = 5$

One sunny morning, a lively letter named Xavier bounced into town, looking incredibly happy. But wait! A mysterious equation, |X| = 5, floated playfully above his head. Xavier tilted his head, a little confused.

Xavier's happy face turned into a worried frown as he scratched his head. "Does this mean I have to be exactly 5 steps away from Zero?" he wondered aloud. "But which way should I go – left or right?"

Noticing Xavier's dilemma, the kind Zero chuckled gently and rolled closer. With a warm, welcoming smile, Zero prepared to share an important secret about numbers. Xavier eagerly leaned in to listen.

Zero explained, "Absolute value only cares about how far you are, not the direction you travel. It doesn't matter if you go left or right, only that you are 5 units away from me." Zero gestured widely, showing the vast possibilities along the number line.

Xavier's eyes lit up with a sudden burst of understanding! A playful lightbulb appeared above his head as he clapped his hands. "Aha!" he exclaimed, "So I can go to positive 5, or I can go to negative 5!"

With a burst of energy, Xavier decided to try the first option. He happily skipped five cheerful steps to the right, landing perfectly on the +5 mark. He beamed with pride, feeling like a true number explorer.

But then, a shimmering, magical glow surrounded Xavier. He remembered Zero's words: "It doesn't matter if you go left or right." He realized there was another correct answer, another path to take.

With a delightful pop and sparkle, Xavier magically split into two identical, joyful versions of himself! One Xavier stood proudly at +5, while the other equally happy Xavier stood at -5. Both waved to each other across Zero.

The two Xaviers high-fived across the number line, their smiles brighter than ever. They had both found the correct answers! From that day on, Xavier, and all his friends in Number Town, remembered that absolute value means distance from Zero, without caring about the sign.