To master the basics of mathematics it is crucial to understand and correctly use a variety of symbols. For example, the plus sign () denotes addition, while the minus sign () represents subtraction. The multiplication operation can be shown using the asterisk () or the multiplication sign (). Division is typically represented by the forward slash (/) or the division sign ().

In algebra, variables are commonly denoted by letters such as x, y and z. The equal sign () shows that two expressions are equivalent. Inequality symbols include the less than () and the greater than () signs, as well as the less than or equal to () and the greater than or equal to () sign.

When dealing with equations, parenthesis (), brackets () and braces () are used to group parts of the equation and indicate the order of operations. Exponents are denoted by the caret symbol (^) or by superscript numbers, such as for squared.

Understanding these symbols is essential for solving equations and performing mathematical operations correctly. Additionally, the percent sign () is used to represent percentages, while the dollar sign ($) is commonly used in financial contexts.

In geometry the angle symbol () indicates angles, and the degree symbol () is used to measure angles. Pi () is a special mathematical constant representing the ratio of a circle’s circumference to its diameter.

By familiarizing themselves with these symbols, students can enhance their mathematical literacy and problem-solving skills.