

Name: _____

Date: _____

EQUIVALENT EXPRESSIONS – DAY 2

N-GEN MATH[®] 7



It will be important to be able to **manipulate algebraic expressions** using the **properties of numbers** to produce **equivalent expressions**. In the last lesson we saw how to use the commutative and associative properties of addition and multiplication. In this lesson we will concentrate on the **distributive property**.

THE DISTRIBUTIVE PROPERTY

If a , b , and c are any numbers then: $a \cdot (b + c) = a \cdot b + a \cdot c$ and $a \cdot (b - c) = a \cdot b - a \cdot c$.

Exercise #1: Calculate the product $2(37)$ in two different ways using the distributive property.

(a) $2(30 + 7) =$

(b) $2(40 - 3) =$

The distributive property is often used when variables are involved.

Exercise #2: Consider the expression $2(x + 7)$.

(a) Write an equivalent expression using the distributive property. Show your steps.

(b) Test the original expression and the one from (a) using $x = 3$. Show the substitution.

Original:

Expression from (a):

A distributive property manipulation is slightly more difficult if the **coefficient** on the variable is not equal to **one**.

Exercise #3: Consider the expression $5(3x + 4)$. Justify each of the following steps using a property.

$$5(3x + 4) = 5(3x) + 5(4)$$

$$5(3x) + 5(4) = (5 \cdot 3)x + 20 = 15x + 20$$

Property: _____

Property: _____



It is critical that you get good at using the distributive property because it will arise in many of the lessons that you see.

Exercise #4: Rewrite each of these expressions using the distributive property. Show the steps in your manipulation. Write all fractions in simplified form.

(a) $3(4x + 7)$

(b) $8(3x - 2)$

(c) $-2(4x + 1)$

(d) $\frac{3}{2}(4x + 10)$

(e) $-4(-5x + 7)$

(f) $\frac{1}{3}(9x - 6)$

Let's look at an additional case that we didn't see in *Exercise #4* that involves negatives and subtraction.

Exercise #5: Consider the expression $-3(5x - 8)$.

(a) Rewrite the expression so that the difference in the parentheses is a sum instead.

(b) Use the distributive property on (b) to simplify the expression.

What we see is that when we multiply difference by a negative number, it becomes a sum.

Exercise #6: Use what you learned in *Exercise #5* to rewrite each of the following.

(a) $-2(4x - 5)$

(b) $-7(3x - 4)$

(c) $-5(-2x - 11)$



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EQUIVALENT EXPRESSIONS – DAY 2
N-GEN MATH[®] 7 HOMEWORK

FLUENCY

1. The expression $7(x + 3)$ is equivalent to which of the following?

(1) $7x + 3$

(3) $x + 21$

(2) $7x + 10$

(4) $7x + 21$

2. If the binomial $2x + 8$ was multiplied by 5 the result would be equivalent to

(1) $10x + 40$

(3) $7x + 13$

(2) $2x + 13$

(4) $10x + 8$

3. Find the product $5(18)$ in two ways using the distributive property:

(a) $5(10 + 8) =$

(b) $5(20 - 2) =$

4. Rewrite each of the following expressions using the distributive property.

(a) $8(x + 5)$

(b) $4(y - 9)$

(c) $-6(n + 3)$

(d) $7(x + 1)$

(e) $-10(x - 3)$

(f) $\frac{2}{3}(6x + 3)$



5. Rewrite each of the following expressions using the distributive property.

(a) $3(4x + 7)$

(b) $11(8x - 3)$

(c) $-5(3x + 2)$

(d) $-12(-2x + 5)$

(e) $\frac{5}{4}(8x - 20)$

(f) $-3(5x - 2)$

(g) $\frac{7}{5}(10x + 5)$

(h) $-9(-5x - 3)$

(i) $\frac{5}{6}(12x - 42)$

6. Patrick is manipulating the expression: $5(2x - 3)$. He does the following steps.

Step #1: $5(2x) - 5(3)$ _____

Step #2: $(5 \cdot 2)x - 5(3)$ _____

Step #3: $10x - 15$

- (a) Write the properties that Patrick uses in Step #1 and Step #2 on the blanks provided.
- (b) Test the equivalency of these two expressions for $x = 4$. Show the substitution for both.

$5(2x - 3)$

$10x - 15$

