

3.4 The Distributive Property

1

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do you use the Distributive Property to simplify expressions?

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COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

6.NS.4 . . . Use the distributive property to express a sum of two whole numbers 1-100 with a common factor as a multiple of a sum of two whole numbers with no common factor.

6.EE.2b Identify parts of a expression.

6.EE.3 Apply the properties of operations to generate equivalent expressions.

6.EE.4 Identify when two expressions are equivalent.

3

Simplify the expression

HOUSE $\rightarrow 4(x + 9)$
 ↑ ↑
 TRICK OR
 TREATERS

WE USED THE **DISTRIBUTIVE PROPERTY**
 TO SIMPLIFY THIS EXPRESSION.

4

The Distributive Property

Multiply each term in the sum or difference by the term outside the parenthesis. Then evaluate.

$$\begin{aligned} 3(w + 7) \\ 3 \cdot w + 3 \cdot 7 \\ 3w + 21 \end{aligned}$$

Algebra
 $a(b + c) = ab + ac$

$$\begin{aligned} 3(w - 7) \\ 3 \cdot w - 3 \cdot 7 \\ 3w - 21 \end{aligned}$$

Algebra
 $a(b - c) = ab - ac$

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EXAMPLE 3 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions

Use the Distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$\begin{aligned} 4(n + 5) \\ 4 \cdot n + 4 \cdot 5 \\ 4n + 20 \end{aligned}$$

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EXAMPLE 3 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions

Use the Distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$12(2y - 3)$$

$$12 \cdot 2y - 12 \cdot 3$$

$$24y - 36$$

7

EXAMPLE 3 Simplifying Algebraic Expressions

Use the Distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$9(6 + x + 2)$$

$$9 \cdot 6 + 9 \cdot x + 9 \cdot 2$$

$$54 + 9x + 18$$

$$72 + 9x$$

8

On Your Own

Use the distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$7(d + 2)$$

$$7 \cdot d + 7 \cdot 2$$

$$7d + 14$$

9

On Your Own

Use the distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$3(d - 11)$$

$$3 \cdot d - 3 \cdot 11$$

$$3d - 33$$

10

On Your Own

Use the distributive Property to simplify the expression.

$$7(2 + 6 - 4d)$$

$$7 \cdot 2 + 7 \cdot 6 - 7 \cdot 4d$$

$$14 + 42 - 28d$$

$$56 - 28d$$

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EXAMPLE 4 Real-Life Application

Jose is x years old. His brother, Felipe, is 2 years older than Jose. Their aunt, Maria, is three times old as Felipe. Write and Simplify an expression that represents Maria's age in years.

Jose $\rightarrow x$ years old x

Felipe $\rightarrow 2$ years older than Jose $x + 2$

12 Maria $\rightarrow 3$ times as old as Felipe $3(x + 2)$

$$3(x + 2) = 3x + 6$$

Alexis is x years old. Her sister, Gloria, is 7 years older than Alexis. Their grandfather is five times as old as Gloria. Write and simplify an expression that represents their grandfather's age in years.

$$\text{Alexis} \rightarrow x$$

$$\text{Gloria} \rightarrow x + 7$$

$$\text{Grandfather} \rightarrow 5(x + 7)$$

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$$5(x + 7) = 5x + 35$$

LIKE TERMS → Terms that have the same variables raised to the same exponents. Constant terms are also like terms.

12 and 7 → *Like Terms*

$7r$ and r → *Like Terms*

$5x$ and $5w$ → *Not Like Terms*

$9x^2$ and $2x$ → *Not Like Terms*

14

Like terms

$$5x + 19 + 2x + 2$$

Like terms

15

EXAMPLE 5 Combining Like Terms

Simplify each expression.

$$3x + 9 + 2x - 5$$

$$5x + 4$$

16

EXAMPLE 5 Combining Like Terms

Simplify each expression.

$$y + y + y$$

$$3y$$

17

EXAMPLE 5 Combining Like Terms

Simplify each expression.

$$7z + 2(z - 5y)$$

$$7z + 2z - 10y$$

$$9z - 10y$$

18

Simplify the expression.

$$8 + 3z - z$$

$$8 + 2z$$

19

Simplify the expression.

$$3(b + 5) + b + 2$$

$$3b + 15 + b + 2$$

$$4b + 17$$

20

Simplify the expression.

$$10 + 7(3 + x)$$

$$10 + 21 + 7x$$

$$31 + 7x$$

21

Simplify the expression.

$$5(2w + 8) - 3w$$

$$10w + 40 - 3w$$

$$7w + 40$$

22

Simplify the expression.

$$5(4 + 8k) + 12$$

$$20 + 40k + 12$$

$$32 + 40k$$

23

Simplify the expression.

$$8(x + y) - 5x$$

$$8x + 8y - 5x$$

$$3x + 8y$$

24

Simplify the expression.

$$2c + 3(f + 5c)$$

$$2c + 3f + 15c$$

$$17c + 3f$$

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Simplify the expression.

$$3(x + 5) + 4(2 + x)$$

$$3x + 15 + 8 + 4x$$

$$7x + 23$$

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