

Content and Language Objective:

Students will use what they know about factoring to apply it to situations that involve mathematical operations.

Warm-Up

1. $15x^4y^3$ and $75x^2y$

$$15x^2y$$

2. $12s^3t$ and $168s^6tv^2$

$$12s^3t + \cancel{168s^6tv^2}$$

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Perhaps, the process of factoring by removing the greatest common factor can be best described using the reverse distributive property. In the distributive property, one is multiplying a certain number or variable to all of the terms. In factoring by *GCF*, one is dividing all of the terms by the *GCF*.

Consider this expression which utilizes the distributive property: $5x^2(4x^4 + 3)$.

Usually, this is the distributive process: $5x^2(4x^4 + 3)$.



To simplify using the distributive property,
the student multiplies $5x^2$ times $4x^4$, and then
the student multiplies $5x^2$ times 3.

$$5x^2 \cdot 4x^4 = 20x^6$$

$$5x^2 \cdot 3 = 15x^2$$

After simplifying using the distributive property, you get $\boxed{20x^6 + 15x^2}$.

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When we are working through mathematical operations involving factoring, we approach it in much the same way we did with factoring only now we have mathematical operations involved.

Find the greatest common factor for the following.

$$24x^8 + 21x^3$$

$$3x^3(8x^5 + 7)$$

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Find the greatest common factor:

$$\underline{8}y^2 - \underline{12}y^3 + \underline{4}y^1$$
$$4y(2y - 3y^2 + 1)$$

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Find the greatest common factor:

$$14z^8 + 24z^7 - 30z^3$$

$$2z^3 (7z^5 + 12z^4 - 15)$$

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Find the greatest common factor:

$$16c^7 - 6c^3$$

$$2c^3(8c^4 - 3)$$