Vocabulary: Equivalent Algebraic Expressions 1

dictionary2

**Vocabulary**

* Algebraic expression – an expression that contains numbers, variables, and operators.
* Associative – when values connected by two identical operators give the same result, regardless of how they are grouped.
  + Addition is associative because (a + b) + c and a + (b + c) are equivalent expressions.
* Commutative – when values connected by an operator give the same result, regardless of the order of the values.
  + Multiplication is commutative because a • b and b • a are equivalent expressions.
* Equivalent expressions – expressions that are always equal, regardless of the values assigned to any variables.
* Opposite – a number times -1. Also called the “additive inverse.”
  + The opposite of 7 is -7.
  + The opposite of -2.5 is 2.5.
* Reciprocal – 1 divided by a number. Also called the “multiplicative inverse.”
  + The reciprocal of 5 is .
  + The reciprocal of  is .