Unit	Four:	Variable	Expressions
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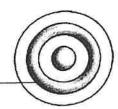
Lesson 4.6: Factoring Variable Expressions

Name:	Keir	
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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## LEARNING TARGETS

☐ I can factor out the greatest common factor from an algebraic expression



## **FACTORS**

Numbers have factors:

6

1, 2, 3, 6

Expressions have factors:

2x + 6

2

## **FACTORING**

Factoring is the process of finding factors.

In other words, factoring is \_\_\_\_\_\_ splitting apart \_\_\_\_ an expression into

multiplication of simpler expressions.

Factoring is the opposite of "expanded"				
FACTORED	EXPANDED			
2(x + 3)	2x + 6	GCF = L		
5x(2-3x)	$10x - 15x^2$	GCF=5x		
z(7 + 4z)	$7z + 4z^2$	GCF= Z		
The key to factoring is to find	the highest common factor.			

Directions: Factor the expression.

1. 
$$6x + 9$$

$$3(2x+3)$$

GCF=

2. 
$$-20y - 5z$$

GCF=
5

$$3. 15 - 3a$$

GCF:

4. 
$$7y^2 + 21y$$

GcF=

5. 
$$10z - 60$$

GCF=

6. 
$$40b - 80c - 40d$$

GCF=