Equivalent Expressions

Combining Like Terms

Terms are separated by + or - signs in an expression.

Like terms may be combined according to the sign that separates them.

Constants are terms without a variable (digit alone) that may also be combined.

example:
$$8y + 3 + y + 2 + 4x$$

$$9y + 5 + 4x$$

Draw shapes to identify like terms. Combine like terms.

(a)
$$4x + 3 + 2x + 1$$

$$(c)$$
 8c + 2b + 3b + 6

(d)
$$10 + 6y + 2x + 3$$

(e)
$$4c + 2 + c + 1$$

(f)
$$3x + 2y + 7 + 2x$$

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example:
$$8y + 3 + y + 2 + 4x$$

$$9y + 5 + 4x$$

Draw shapes to identify like terms. Combine like terms.

$$6x + 4$$

$$11a + 2b + 4$$

d
$$10 + 6y + 2x + 3$$

$$8c + 5b + 6$$

$$13 + 6y + 2x$$

$$5c + 3$$

$$5x + 2y + 7$$