

Algebra 2

Lesson: April 7th

Learning Target:

Students will factor polynomial expressions involving the sum and difference of cubes.

Let's Get Started:

Watch Video - [Factoring Sum and Difference of Cubes](#)

Practice:

Go to this website:

[Factor Sums and Differences of Cubes](#)

1. Get out a sheet of paper, review and solve the problem on [Factor Sums and Differences of Cubes](#). You may do several problems, if you choose to do so.
2. Find the binomial that completes the factorization; cube root both terms, keeping the sign between them.
3. Here are the patterns for the sum and difference of cubes, as well as review for the problem above:

remember

Sum of cubes:

$$a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$$

Difference of cubes:

$$a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$$

solve

The polynomial $x^3 - y^3$ is a difference of cubes.

$$x^3 - y^3 = (x - y)(x^2 + xy + y^2)$$

Factoring Polynomials Practice:

On the same sheet of paper, factor the following 4 practice problems using the sum or difference of cubes.

1. $64y^3 - 729$

2. $216x^3 + 1$

3. $8z^3 + 27$

4. $343w^3 - 125$

Factoring Polynomials Answer Key:

Once you have completed the problems, check your answers here.

1. $(4y - 9)(16y^2 + 36y + 81)$

2. $(6x + 1)(36x^2 - 6x + 1)$

3. $(2z + 3)(4z^2 - 6z + 9)$

4. $(7w - 5)(49w^2 + 35w + 25)$

Additional Practice:

Click on the links below to get additional practice and to check your understanding. There are two videos, practice problems, and the answer key to the practice problems.

[Factoring Sum of Cubes](#) Video

[Factoring Difference of Cubes](#) Video

[Factoring Sum/Difference of Cubes](#) Practice

[Factoring Sum/Difference of Cubes](#) Practice Answer Key