

Combining Like Terms

In your baggie should be several squares of various colours. Instead of referring to them by colour, we are going to abbreviate the colours and refer to them by the first letter of their colour:

Purple: P

Beige: B

Yellow: Y

Green: G

Put 3 purples and 4 beiges in your workspace. This is represented like so: $3P + 4B$.

Put the following blocks in your space. Write down the representation using the abbreviations.

1) 2 yellows and 5 greens _____

2) 4 purples, 3 greens, and 2 yellows _____

3) 1 yellow and 2 purples _____

4) 2 beiges, 3 purples, 3 greens, and 6 yellows _____

Describe the following equations in words.

5) $4P + 5Y$ _____

6) $2B + 4Y + 3G$ _____

7) $6P + 4G + 5B$ _____

8) $2P + 3B + Y + 2G$ _____

In the following problems, we are going to combine colours that are alike.

Example: $4P + 2Y + 3Y + 2P = 6P + 5Y$ (When combining everything together, we have 6 purples and 5 yellows.) Remember “+” means “put together” and “-” means “take away”.

9) $2Y + 4B + 3Y + B$

10) $4P + 5B - 2B + 2G$

11) $3G + 4P + 2G$

12) $5B + 2P + 4P - 3P$

13) $6Y + 4G - 2Y - G$

14) $Y + G + Y + P$