# Vocabulary: Equivalent Algebraic Expressions 2

**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.

- Distributive – when an operator performed on two separate values gives the same result as the operator performed on the values combined.
    - Multiplication is distributive because a(b + c) and ab + ac are equivalent expressions.

- Equivalent expressions – expressions that are always equal, regardless of the values assigned to any variables.