

AlgebraStarters: key vocabulary

bar model	a diagram made of rectangles that shows the parts and total of an equation.
bracket	one of a pair of curved symbols, (), used to group numbers or letters.
coefficient	the number in front of a letter, showing how many of it there are
constant	a fixed number that stands alone, like 3 in $3x+3$.
equation	a mathematical statement with an equals sign showing that two sides are equal.
expand	to multiply out brackets so the expression has no brackets left
factor	a whole number that divides exactly into another number
FOIL	a way to multiply two brackets that each have two terms, multiplying First, Outer, Inner and Last.
like terms	terms that have the same letter or letters, or no letter, so they can be added or subtracted together.
negative	below zero; a number or term with a minus sign is below zero.
product	the answer when two or more numbers are multiplied
solution	a value or set of values that makes an equation true when used in place of the letter.
term	one part of an expression or one number in a sequence

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