



Evaluating Algebraic Expressions

GUIDED NOTES

IMPORTANT VOCABULARY:

- **Variable:** a symbol, usually a **variable**, that stands for an unknown number.
- **Algebraic Expression:** An expression that contains **variables, numbers and operations**

EVALUATING ALGEBRAIC EXPRESSIONS

1. To **evaluate** an algebraic expression means to find the value of it, given specific values for each **variable**.

2. To evaluate an algebraic expression:

Step 1: **Substitute** the given value for each **variable**

Step 2: Evaluate the numerical expression using **order of operations**

3. Don't forget: A number right next to a variable means to **multiply**

GUIDED PRACTICE

Evaluate each algebraic expression when $a = 5$ and $b = 2$

$3a$ $3 \times 5 = 15$	$5 + b$ $5 + 2 = 7$
$2a + b$ $2 \times 5 + 2 = 12$	$a - b$ $5 - 2 = 3$



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VOCABULARY

