

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Exploring Rules of Exponents:** How can you use patterns to discover rules for multiplying with exponents?

### Product of Powers Property:

| Expression        | Expanded form   | # of factors | Product as a power |
|-------------------|---|--------------|--------------------|
| $2^4 \bullet 2^3$ | $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \bullet 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$                 |              | $2^7$              |
| $5^3 \bullet 5^5$ | $5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \bullet 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5$         |              | $5^8$              |
| $a^3 \bullet a^6$ | $a \cdot a \cdot a \bullet a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot a$ |              | $a^9$              |

To multiply powers having the same base,  
add the exponents

$$\underline{a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}} \quad \underline{3^2 \cdot 3^7 = 3^{2+7} = 3^9}$$

1.  $4^5 \cdot 4^3$   
 $4^8$

$$5 \cdot 3^5 \cdot 3^2$$

$$3^7$$

Examples: 2.  $y^3 \cdot y^4 \cdot y^5$

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$y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y$

$y^{12}$

$$6. z \cdot z^2 \cdot z^4$$

3.  $2 \cdot 2^6$   
 $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$   
 $2^7$

$$7. 5^2 \cdot 5^6$$

4.  $(-5)(-5)^3$   
 $(-5) \cdot (-5)(-5)(-5)$   
 $(-5)^4$

8.  $(-3)^2 \cdot (-3)^5$   
 $(-3)^7$

**Exploring Rules of Exponents:** How can you use patterns to discover rules for multiplying with exponents?

## Power of a Power Property:

| Expression | Expanded form  | # of factors | Product as a power |
|------------|--|--------------|--------------------|
| $(4^2)^3$  | $4^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 4^2$<br>$= 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4$   |              | $4^6$              |
| $(2^3)^5$  | $2^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot 2^3$<br>$= 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$ |              | $2^{15}$           |
| $(x^3)^4$  | $x^3 \cdot x^3 \cdot x^3 \cdot x^3$<br>$x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x$             |              | $x^{12}$           |

To find a power of a power, multiply the exponents

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \cdot n} \quad (5^2)^4 = 5^{2 \cdot 4} = 5^8$$

1.  $(5^2)^3$

5.  $(4^2)^4$   
4<sup>8</sup>

Examples:

$$2. (x^3)^2$$

$$6. (y^3)^5$$

$$3. [(-2)^3]^4$$

7.  $[(-4)^3]^5$   
 $(-4)^{15}$

4.  $[(a-2)^3]^2$   
 $(a-2)^6$

8.  $[(y+2)^4]^2$

Further exploration:

a. Is there a difference between  $-2^2$  and  $(-2)^2$ ?  
 $-2^2 = -4$  (handwritten:  $-(2 \times 2)$ )  
 $(-2)^2 = 4$  (handwritten:  $(-2) \times (-2)$ )

b. Is there a difference between  $-2^3$  and  $(-2)^3$ ?  
 $-2^3 = -8$  (handwritten:  $-(2 \times 2 \times 2)$ )  
 $(-2)^3 = -8$  (handwritten:  $(-2) \times (-2) \times (-2)$ )

What conclusions can you draw from a and b above?  
(handwritten:  $(-2) \times (-2) \times (-2)$ )

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Evaluating expressions. Simplify the expression.

Then, evaluate the expression when  $a=1$  and  $b=2$ .

a.  $b \bullet b^4$

(handwritten:  $b^5$ )  
 $2^5 = 32$

b.  $a^2 \bullet a^3$

(handwritten:  $a^5$ )  
 $1^5 = 1$

c.  $(-a)^3 \bullet b^2$

(handwritten:  $(-1)^3 \cdot 2^2$ )  
 $-1 \cdot 4 = -4$