



Merit Education Group

Pacing Guide — Unit 1: Expressions

Algebra 1 • 20 Days • 50-Minute Class Periods

Standard: 9.3.5.5

Standard: 9.3.5.7

Standard: 9.3.5.8

Unit Information

Course	Algebra 1
Unit Title	Unit 1: Expressions
Total Lessons	17 lessons + 3 assessment/flex days = 20 days
MN Standards	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
Essential Question	How can we use mathematical expressions to model and solve real-world situations?

Weekly Pacing Overview

Phase Week 1: Introduction to Expressions 5 days min

Day	Lesson	Focus	Standards
1	L01	What Is a Variable?	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
2	L02	Translating Verbal Phrases	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
3	L03	GEMDAS Basics	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
4	L04	GEMDAS — Advanced Grouping	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
5	L05	Evaluating — One Variable	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8

Phase Week 2: Evaluating & Identifying 5 days min

Day	Lesson	Focus	Standards
6	L06	Evaluating — Multiple Variables	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
7	Quiz 1	Quiz 1 — Lessons 1–5	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
8	L07	Real-World Formulas	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
9	L08	Terms, Coefficients & Constants	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
10	L09	Combining Like Terms	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8

Phase Week 3: Properties & Equivalence 5 days min

Day	Lesson	Focus	Standards
11	L10	The Distributive Property	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
12	L11	Distributive Property + Combining Like Terms	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
13	L12	Equivalent Expressions	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
14	L13	Writing Equivalent Expressions (GCF)	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
15	L14	Perimeter, Area & Algebraic Expressions	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8

Phase Week 4: Applications & Assessment 5 days min

Day	Lesson	Focus	Standards
16	L15	Translating Real-World Scenarios	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
17	Quiz 2	Quiz 2 — Lessons 6–15	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
18	L16	Personal Finance: Budgeting	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8
19	Flex	Flex / Review Buffer	Review
20	L17	End-of-Unit Test — Lessons 1–17	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8

Key Dates

Day	Assessment	Covers
		Lessons 1–5
		Lessons 6–15
		Lessons 1–17

Career Spotlights

Every lesson opens with a real Minnesota employer and wage context: Mayo Clinic (L1), Maurices (L2), Target (L3), 3M (L4), Mall of America (L5), HealthPartners (L6), Xcel Energy (L7), DigiKey (L8), CVRx

(L9), Toro (L10), Ecolab (L11), City of Minneapolis (L12), Cambria (L13), Andersen (L14), City of Duluth (L15), and U.S. Bancorp (L16).

What's Included With Each Lesson

- Slide deck with career connections, cultural contexts, and PBIS prompts
- Lesson plan with timing, standards alignment, and tiered differentiation
- Teacher edition with answers, misconceptions, and pacing notes
- Student worksheet (T1/T2/T3 tiers) + full Spanish-language version
- Bell ringer matching the deck's opening slide
- Game master for Prime Time play (L1–L5) or structured practice (L6–L16)
- Exit ticket in QTI 2.1 XML
- Answer keys for every item

Notes

- All lessons designed for 50-minute class periods; the flex day (Day 19) absorbs schedule shifts.
- Unit runs 20 days: 17 lessons + Quiz 1 (Day 7) + Quiz 2 (Day 17) + Flex/Review (Day 19) + Test (Day 20).
- Standards alignment follows the 2022 Minnesota Mathematics Standards (effective 2027–28).
- Unit 1 covers benchmarks 9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, and 9.3.5.8.