



Unit 1: Expressions — Pacing Guide

- Authority:** This pacing guide is the single source of truth for day-by-day scheduling.
- Producer:** Merit Education Group™
- Duration:** 20 days (17 lessons + 3 assessment/flex days)

1 WEEK 1 — INTRODUCTION TO EXPRESSIONS (DAYS 1–5)

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
1	L1	What Is a Variable?	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Translation Match	—
2	L2	Translating Verbal Phrases	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Expression Race	—
3	L3	GEMDAS Basics	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7	Yes	Code Match	—
4	L4	GEMDAS — Advanced Grouping	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7	Yes	Code Match	—
5	L5	Evaluating — One Variable	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Speed Lane	—

Week 1 Culture: Tribal [?] **Ojibwe (odd week)** • L1: Ojibwe [?] culture slide with math word problem • L3: Continent culture slide — Africa (visual only)

2 WEEK 2 — EVALUATING & IDENTIFYING (DAYS 6–10)

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
6	L6	Evaluating — Multiple Variables	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Small Group Practice	—
7	—	Quiz 1 (covers L1–L5)	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	No	—	Quiz 1
8	L7	Real-World Formulas	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Independent Practice	—

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
9	L8	Terms, Coefficients & Constants	9.3.5.7	Yes	Engagement Activity	—
10	L9	Combining Like Terms	9.3.5.7	Yes	Small Group Practice	—

Week 2 Culture: Tribal [?] **Dakota (even week)** • L6: Dakota [?] culture slide with math word problem • L8: Continent culture slide — Asia (visual only)

3 WEEK 3 — PROPERTIES & EQUIVALENCE (DAYS 11–15)

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
11	L10	The Distributive Property	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Independent Practice	—
12	L11	Dist. Property + Combining Like Terms	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Engagement Activity	—
13	L12	Equivalent Expressions	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Large Group Practice	—
14	L13	Writing Equivalent Expressions (GCF)	9.3.5.7	Yes	Independent Practice	—
15	L14	Perimeter, Area & Algebraic Expressions	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Small Group Practice	—

Week 3 Culture: Tribal [?] **Ojibwe (odd week)** • L10: Ojibwe [?] culture slide with math word problem • L12: Continent culture slide — Africa (visual only) • L14: Continent culture slide — Europe (visual only)

4 WEEK 4 — APPLICATIONS & ASSESSMENT (DAYS 16–20)

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
16	L15	Translating Real-World Scenarios	9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Engagement Activity	—
17	—	Quiz 2 (covers L6–L15)	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	No	—	Quiz 2
18	L16	Financial Literacy: Budgeting	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	Yes	Large Group Practice	—
19	—	Flex / Review Buffer	(review)	No	—	—

Day	Lesson	Topic	Standards	Bell Ringer	Game	Assessment
20	L17	End-of-Unit Test (covers L1–L17)	9.3.5.5, 9.3.5.7, 9.3.5.8	No	—	Summative

Week 4 Culture: Tribal  **Dakota (even week)** • L15: Dakota  culture slide with math word problem • L16: Continent culture slide — Americas (visual only) • L17 (Test): No culture, no career, no game

5 CAREER SPOTLIGHTS

Lesson	Company	Job Title	Credential	MN Wage (25th %ile)
L1	Mayo Clinic — Rochester	Medical Lab Scientist	BS	\$ 74,240
L2	Maurices — Duluth	Merchandise Planner	BS	\$ 74,120
L3	Target — Minneapolis	Supply Chain Analyst	BS	\$ 86,130
L4	3M — Maplewood	Industrial Engineer	BS	\$ 101,140
L5	Mall of America — Bloomington	Retail Ops Coordinator	BS	\$ 102,950
L6	HealthPartners — Bloomington	Patient Services Coordinator	HS	\$ 44,640
L7	Xcel Energy — Minneapolis	Power Grid Analyst	HS	\$ 91,920
L8	DigiKey — Thief River Falls	Electronic Comp Specialist	HS	\$ 70,130
L9	CVRx — Minneapolis	Clinical Trial Coordinator	BS	\$ 110,680
L10	The Toro Co. — Bloomington	Assembly Line Tech	HS	\$ 45,870
L11	Ecolab — Saint Paul	Water Treatment Specialist	Cert	\$ 68,988
L12	City of Minneapolis — Minneapolis	Budget Analyst	BS	\$ 82,540
L13	Cambria — Le Sueur	Stone Fabrication Specialist	HS	\$ 50,820
L14	Andersen Corp — Bayport	Window Energy Rater	Cert	\$ 72,120
L15	City of Duluth — Duluth	Public Works Inspector	Cert	\$ 58,502
L16	U.S. Bancorp — Bloomington	Financial Analyst	BS	\$ 101,590
L17	(none — test day)	—	—	—

6 PRIME TIME GAMES (L1–L5 ONLY)

Lesson	Game	Type	Teams	Duration
L1	Translation Match	Matching variables to expressions	4–6	5–7 min
L2	Expression Race	Relay — translate phrase to expression	4–6	5–7 min

Lesson	Game	Type	Teams	Duration
L3	Code Match	GEMDAS sequence matching	4–6	5–7 min
L4	Code Match	Advanced grouping sequence	4–6	5–7 min
L5	Speed Lane	Rapid evaluation fluency	4–6	5–7 min

7 RESOURCES PER LESSON

Each lesson produces these 6 resource files:

```
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_Lesson_Plan.md
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_Teacher_Edition.md
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_Student_Worksheet.md
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_Spanish_Worksheet.md
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_BellRinger.md
U1L{NN}_{ShortName}_Game_Master.md    (L1–L5 only; L6–L16 use practice format
description)
```

End of Pacing Guide v7 — Merit Education Group™ | Algebra 1 | Unit 1