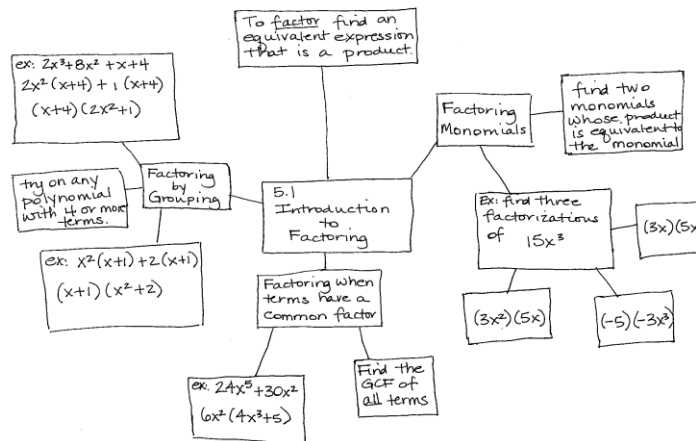


# Learning Maps

A learning map is a method for taking notes from the textbook or rewriting your notes from a class lecture in a graphical form. It begins with the main concept of a section in the middle, with objectives branching out from that center box. Each objective is further branched into supporting definitions, examples, etc. The idea is to put the main concepts of a particular section on one page in a picture form. Here are three examples of learning maps:



It can be helpful to use learning maps as a means of comprehension when you are reading your math text book. Begin by putting the title of the section you are reading in the middle in a box or circle. Now put the objectives that are given for the section in boxes around that center box, adding branches to connect each objective to the center title. For each objective, add boxes with definitions, processes, formulas, and examples. Draw lines from each new box to the objective it goes with. You want to make sure that you do not clutter your learning map with too much information. It needs to be readable and visually pleasing if you are going to be able to use it effectively.

You can make learning maps from the text book either before the material is taught in class or after it is already covered in the classroom.

If you do this BEFORE the material is covered in class, you will have a solid foundation for the material being covered by the teacher. By knowing the important concepts, vocabulary, etc that will be covered on a given day, you will be able to follow the material more closely and ask better questions. Ultimately, you will learn the material better.

If you do this AFTER the material is covered in class it will give you the opportunity to review the concepts and make connections between your lecture notes and the text book explanations.

