

Vocabulary & Notation

There is no more important factor that affects student achievement than vocabulary and notation.

Teach it explicitly!

Mathematical Synonyms

Solve the equation

Find the roots

Find the zeros

Find the solution set

Find the values of the variable that makes the open sentence true

Double meanings

Operation; surgery or add, sub, mult or divide

Mean; not nice or measure of central tendency

Median; island in road or measure of central tendency

Total; breakfast cereal or answer to add problem

Product; something for sale or answer in mult problem

Volume; turn up the sound or measure of capacity

Root; part of a plant or an answer in alg

Notation

Multiplicative Inverse $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \exists! \frac{1}{x} \ni x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 1$

For all x 's that belong to the Real Numbers, there exists a unique x such that $x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = 1$

Multiplication Property – Exponents: $a^m a^n = a^{m+n}$

When you multiply exponentials with the same base, you add the exponents.