

Commendation

Ms. Smith's introduction to factoring by linking it to the Distributive Property made the students comfortable by her use of familiar language was excellent. She demonstrated how to use the Distributive Property with a few examples using simple straight-forward examples so students were focused on the skill – not being distracted by needless arithmetic. She then used those same examples and showed them how to go backwards to find factors. And then she provided a simple procedure for the students to follow with a worked out example for the students to refer to when studying.

To complete the lesson, Ms. Smith provided the students with guided practice problems in which she paced the students through so she could monitor their learning. Clearly, the students were engaged in the lesson and were able to factor using the Distributive Property.

And finally, Ms. Smith showed the students how the factoring with the Distributive Property could be used in computation – mental math, the students really related that to a very good lesson.