

Lesson 6-5 → Combining Like Terms Before Distributing

We will go over P.E.M.D.A.S. in detail later. For now, just know you can combine like terms inside a set of parentheses before distributing

$$-3(-4.2x - (-3.5) + 1.8x)$$

$$-3(-4.2x + 3.5 + 1.8x)$$

$-4.2x + 1.8x$

4.2
 1.8 ?

$3 \ 12$
 4.2
 -1.8
 $\hline 2.4$

$$-3(-2.4x + 3.5)$$

$$7.2x - 10.5$$