

Warm-Up

Solve by factoring: $(x^3 - x^2) + (x - 6) = 0$

$$x^2(x-1) + 1(x-6) = 0$$

Unit 2

Learning Target 4

I can solve polynomials using
synthetic division

Write the following in factored form then list the zeros.

1.) given a **zero**. $x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x - 12$; -4

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -4 & 1 & 4 & -3 & -12 & \\ & \downarrow & & & & \\ + & & -4 & 0 & 12 & \\ \hline & 1 & 0 & -3 & 0 & \end{array}$$

Factored Form: $f(x) = (x+4)(x^2-3)$

Zeros: $x = -4, \sqrt{3}, -\sqrt{3}$

$$x^2 - 3 = 0$$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{3}$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{3}$$

2.) Given a **factor**.

$$f(x) = 4x^4 - 37x^2 + 9; \quad x-3$$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 3 & 4 & 0 & -37 & 0 & 9 \\ & \downarrow & 12 & 36 & -3 & -9 \\ \hline & 4 & 12 & -1 & -3 & 0 \end{array}$$

Factored Form: $f(x) = (x-3)(4x^2-1)(x+3)$

Zeros: $x = 3, \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}, -3$

$$(4x^3 + 12x^2 - 1x - 3) = 0$$

$$4x^2(x+3) - 1(x+3) = 0$$

$$(4x^2 - 1)(x+3) = 0$$

$$4x^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$4x^2 = 1$$

$$x^2 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} = \pm\frac{1}{2}$$

$$x+3=0$$

$$x = -3$$

3.) Given a **function**. $f(x) = 6x^3 + x^2 - 10x + 3$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 6 & 1 & -10 & 3 \\ & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 6 & 7 & -3 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x+3 &= 0 \\ 2x &= -3 \\ x &= -3/2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3x-1 &= 0 \\ 3x &= 1 \\ x &= 1/3 \end{aligned}$$

$$6x^2 + 7x - 3 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9 \times -18 \\ \quad \quad -2 \\ \hline \quad \quad 7 \end{array}$$

Factored Form: $f(x) = (x-1)(2x+3)(3x-1)$

Zeros: $x = 1, -3/2, 1/3$

$$(2x+3)(3x-1) = 0$$

Let's look back at the warm-up

Solve by factoring: $x^3 - x^2 + x - 6 = 0$

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -6 \\ + & \downarrow & & & \\ \hline & 1 & 2 & 2 & 6 \\ & 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$x^2 + x + 3 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \times \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$$

Now what? Stay tuned tomorrow to see what happens next!

