

## General Education Math Lesson Plan

### Negative Exponents

**Source:** Bennett, J.M., Burger, E. B., Chard, D. J., Hall, E., Kennedy, P. A...Waits, B. W. (2011). *Mathematics*. Austin, TX: Holt McDougal

**Standard:** 6.PRF.2a2 Use variable to represent numbers and write expressions when solving real world problems  
6.NO.1i2 Solve numerical expressions involving whole number exponents

**Materials:**

**Activities:**

- Focus and Review: Review simplifying terms with positive exponents
- Lecture: Teacher works through a variety of problem simplifying terms with negative exponents. During this lecture, the teacher begins by using the chart below (highlighting the pattern) to demonstrate what happens to a terms as it is raised to both positive and negative exponents. **Remind students negative exponents do not indicate a negative value, but a fraction instead.**

$10^{-2}$	$10^{-1}$	$10^0$	$10^1$	$10^2$	$10^3$
$\frac{1}{100}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	1	10	100	1000

- Guided Practice: Students simplify a variety of expressions from their textbook in pairs
- Independent Practice: Students complete activity sheet

---

**Activity: Create a universally designed version of the above lesson**

UDL Planning	My ideas
Representation- adaptations in materials (e.g., adapt for sensory impairments)	Highlight the sign associated with the exponent so students attend to the most relevant feature; stay with terms with a base of 10 until mastery before beginning with other numbers
Expression- how will student show learning (e.g., use of assistive technology; alternative project)	Ask students to identify whether the simplified term is a whole number or a fraction based on the sign associated with the exponent
Engagement- how will student participate in the activity	Student can work in a pair during independent practice; include personally relevant word problems or stories to add context.