

Name: _____

Unit 7 - Exploring Derivatives- Group Activity

IV. Use the TI-89 to find the derivative of the following:

$f(x) = 3x - 5$ 3

$f(x) = x + 2$ 1

$f(x) = 3 - 2x$ -2

$f(x) = -3x - 4$ -3

$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}x$ $\frac{1}{2}$

$f(x) = 4 - \frac{2}{3}x$ $-\frac{2}{3}$

1. All of the above functions are linear. And their derivative is the slope of the line.

V. Discovering the shortcut.

There is a shortcut to finding the derivative of a polynomial. Find the derivative of the following and see if you can discover the shortcut.

$f(x) = x^2$ $2x$

$f(x) = x^{10}$ $10x^9$

$f(x) = \sqrt{x}$ $\frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$

$f(x) = x^4$ $4x^3$

$f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ $-2x^{-3} = -\frac{2}{x^3}$

$f(x) = \sqrt[5]{x^5}$ $\frac{5}{4}x^{1/4}$

1. Describe the shortcut

power \times coefficient
new power = old power - 1

VI. The constant multiple rule. - The derivative of a constant times a function is the constant times the derivative. Find the derivative of the following.

$f(x) = 3x^2$ $3 \cdot (2x)$
 $6x$

$f(x) = -4x^{-3}$ $-4 \cdot (-3x^{-4})$
 $12x^{-4}$

$f(x) = -x^9$ $-1 \cdot (9x^8)$
 $-9x^8$

VII. The sum and difference rules: - The derivative of the sum of two functions is the sum of the derivatives of the two functions. Find the derivatives of the following:

$f(x) = x^2 - 3x$
 $2x - 3$

$f(x) = 4x^3 + 5x^2 + x - 1$
 $12x^2 + 10x + 1$

$f(x) = 8x - \sqrt[3]{x}$
 $8 - \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3}$

VIII. Derivative of weird functions. Find the derivative of the following:

$f(x) = \sin x$

$f(x) = \cos x$

$f(x) = e^x$

$f(x) = \ln x$

$\cos x$

$-\sin x$

e^x

$\frac{1}{x}$