

You have 30 minutes to work on this group activity before presenting.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. The equation  $y'' + y' - 2y = x^2$  is called a *differential equation* because it involves an unknown function  $y$  and its derivatives  $y'$  and  $y''$ . Find constants  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  such that the function  $y = Ax^2 + Bx + C$  satisfies the equation.
2. Evaluate  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{x^{1000} - 1}{x - 1}$ .
3. The *Reciprocal Rule* states  $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{1}{g(x)} \right] = -\frac{g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$ .
  - (a) Use the Quotient Rule to prove the Reciprocal Rule.
  - (b) Use the Reciprocal Rule to verify that the Power Rule is valid for negative integers, meaning

$$\frac{d}{dx} (x^{-n}) = -nx^{-n-1}$$

for all positive integers  $n$ .

4. Let  $f(x) = x^2 e^x$ . The principle of mathematical induction states that, if a proposition  $P(n)$  is true for  $n = 1$ , and  $P(n)$  true implies  $P(n + 1)$  true, then  $P(n)$  is true for every natural number  $n$ .
  - (a) Find expressions for the first five derivatives of  $f(x)$ .
  - (b) Guess a formula for the  $n$ th derivative  $f^{(n)}(x)$ .
  - (c) Prove your formula holds for all natural numbers  $n$  using the principal of mathematical induction.
5. Find constants  $A$  and  $B$  such that the function  $y = A \sin x + B \cos x$  satisfies the differential equation  $y'' + y' - 2y = \sin x$ .
6. A ladder 10ft long rests against a vertical wall. Let  $\theta$  be the angle between the top of the ladder and the wall and let  $x$  be the distance from the bottom of the ladder to the wall. If the bottom of the ladder slides away from the wall, how fast does  $x$  change with respect to  $\theta$  when  $\theta = \pi/3$ ?
7. Let  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  be infinitely differentiable, meaning the  $n$ th derivatives  $f^{(n)}(x)$  and  $g^{(n)}(x)$  exist for all positive integers  $n$ , and let  $F(x) = f(x)g(x)$ .
  - (a) Show that  $F'' = f''g + 2f'g' + fg''$ .
  - (b) Find similar formulae for  $F'''$  and  $F^{(4)}$ .
  - (c) Guess a formula for  $F^{(n)}$ .
8. For what values of  $a$  and  $b$  is the line  $2x + y = b$  tangent to the parabola  $y = ax^2$  when  $x = 2$ ?
9. Let  $f$ ,  $g$ , and  $h$  be differentiable functions.
  - (a) Use two applications of the Product Rule to prove that  $(fgh)' = f'gh + fg'h + fgh'$ .
  - (b) Take  $f = g = h$  to show that  $\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)]^3 = 3[f(x)]^2 f'(x)$  using part (a).
  - (c) Use part (b) to differentiate  $y = e^{3x}$ .