Class Notes and Examples

Exploratory Activity

Let's take a look at some polynomial functions, and explore the relationship between the graphs of the functions and their algebraic forms, by using our graphing calculators.

	Degree and Leading Term	Graph	Zeros and Factored Form
$y = x^3$			
$y = x^4$			
$y = x^5$			
$y = x^6$			
$y = x^3 + 7x^2 + 6x$			
$y = x^4 - 5x^2 + 4$			
$y = \frac{1}{2}x^2(x+3)(x-1)(x-4)$			