

Expression grouping board

MODEL: three equal groups of $x + 4$

The x tile stands for a variable count, not one card.

Each row is one complete bracket.

$$\boxed{x} + \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \quad \text{row 1}$$

$$\boxed{x} + \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \quad \text{row 2}$$

$$\boxed{x} + \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \boxed{1} \quad \text{row 3}$$

COUNT IN TWO WAYS

Grouped: $3(x + 4)$

Expanded: $x + x + x + 4 + 4 + 4 = 3x + 12$

Try another input: $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Both forms give $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$ because $\underline{\hspace{2cm}}$