Which Factoring Method Should You Use?

636/584-6688
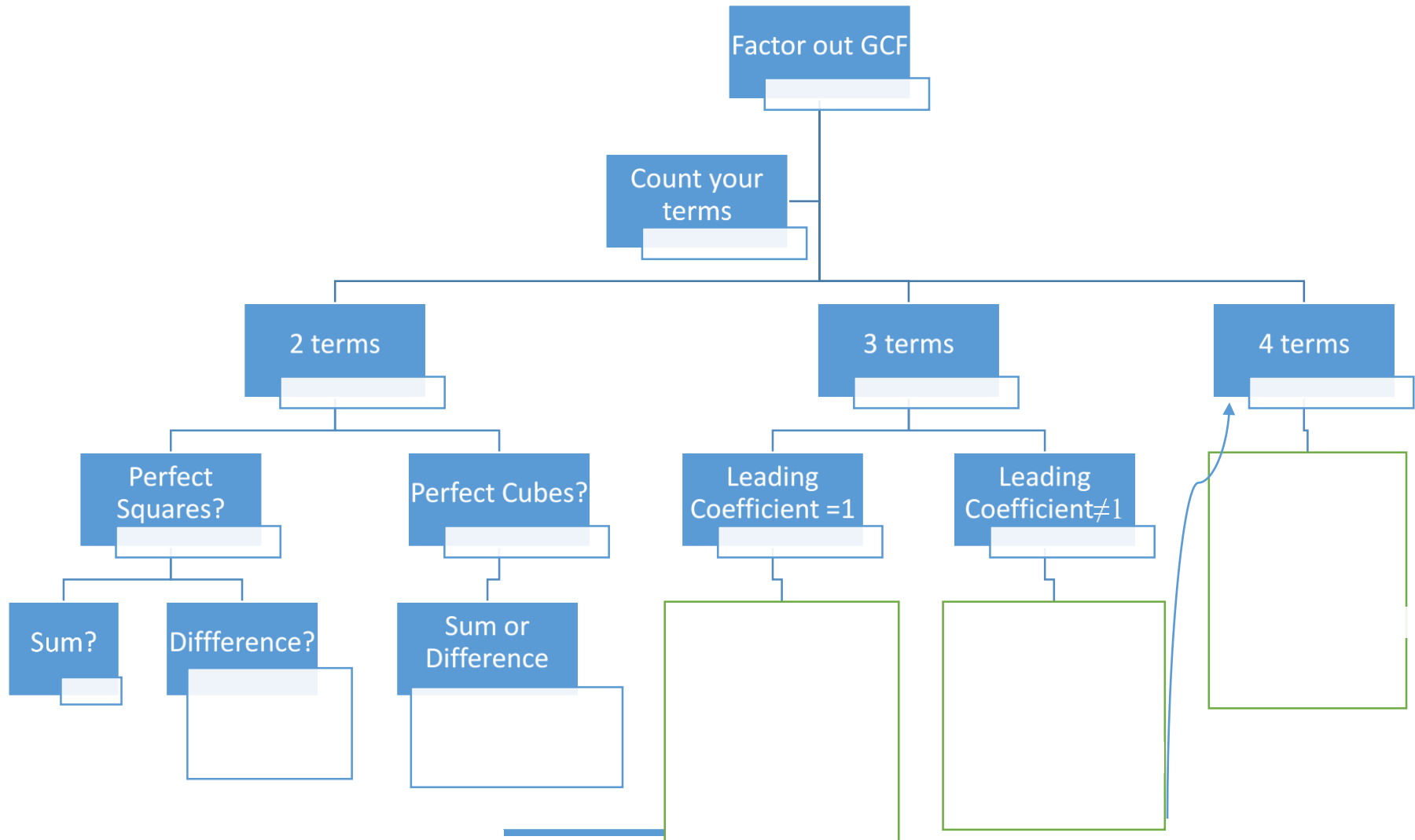
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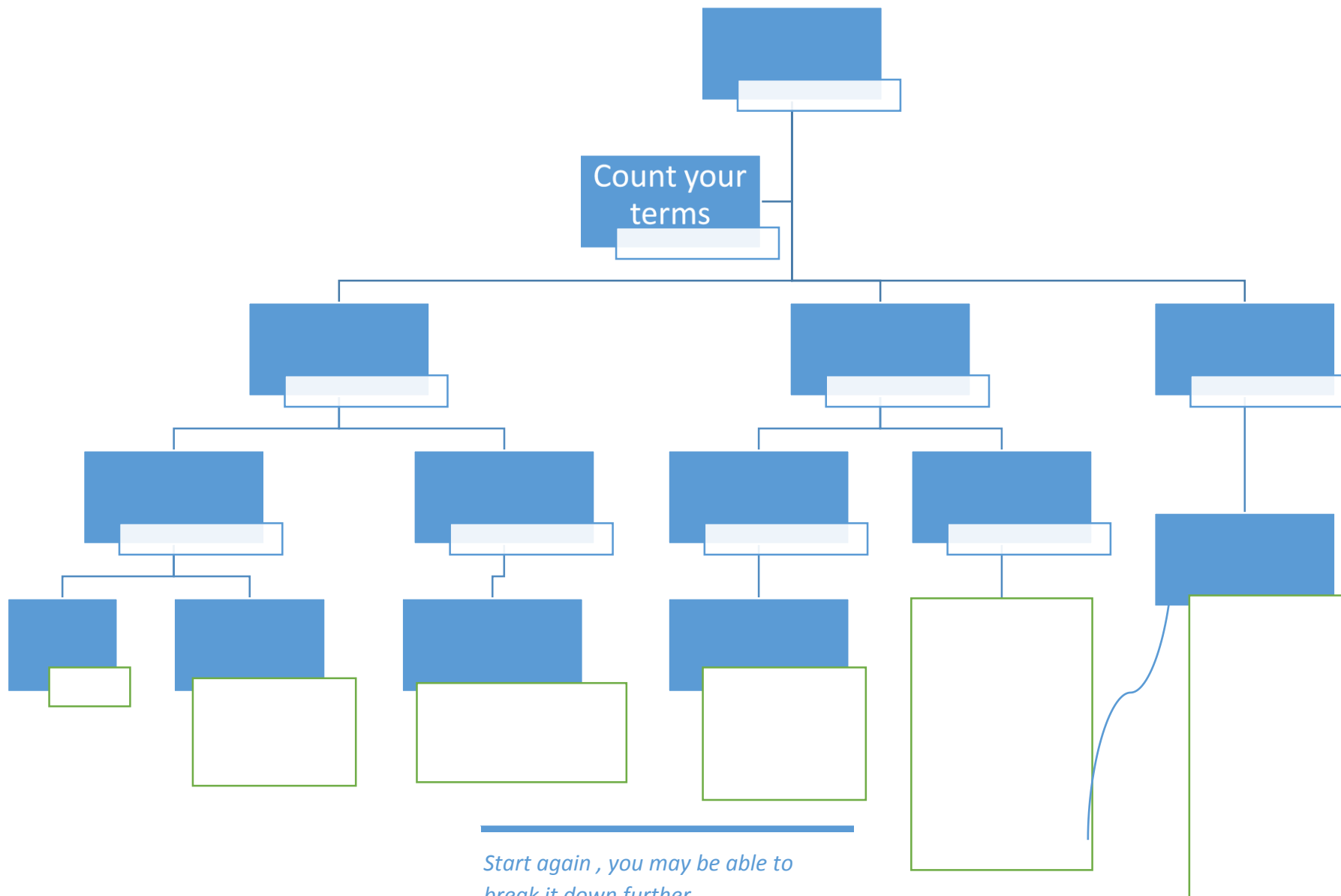
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How to use the flow chart

- Put in examples of the type of polynomials you may be asked to factor.

- Work out the examples.

- After filling out the partially completed flow chart, test your memory by filling out the blank flow chart with new examples.

- If you need some additional help a list of possible expressions are listed on the final slide. Or come in to see a Learning Specialist.

Factor out GCF

Count your terms

2 terms

3 terms

4 terms

Perfect Squares?

Perfect Cubes?

Leading Coefficient =1

Leading Coefficient≠1

Sum?

Diffference?

Sum or Difference

Start again , you may be able to break it down further.

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Count your terms

Start again , you may be able to break it down further.

Possible Polynomial Expressions

- $x^4 - 81$
- $x^2 + 16$
- $x^6 - 27$
- $x^2 - 12x + 20$
- $3x^2 - 5x - 2$
- $15x^2 + 25xy - 6xy - 10y^2$
- $27x^2y + 15xy - 12y^2$