## VOCABULARY

| additive identity | the number 0 (for the real numbers) |
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| distributive property | $a(b+c)=a b+a c$ or $a(b-c)=a b-a c$ |
| equation | a mathematical sentence whose verb is 'equal' (=) |
| identity | an equation that is true for all values of the variable |
| interest | a payment for the use of money borrowed or invested |
| like terms | terms that have the same variable(s), with each variable raised to the same exponent |
| literal equation | an equation containing more than one variable |
| multiplicative identity | the number 1 (for the real numbers) |
| multiplicative inverse | the reciprocal of a number; if x is a number other than zero, then $1 / x$ is the multiplicative inverse; the product of a number and its multiplicative inverse is 1 |
| open sentence | an equation that contains a variable or variables |
| principal | the amount of money invested or borrowed at a certain rate of interest |
| solution | a value or values of the variable that make an algebraic sentence true |
| symmetric property | when the sides of an equation are interchanged, an equivalent equation is formed; if $a=b$, then $b=a$ |
| variable | a letter or symbol used to represent an unknown |

