

It doesn't matter where the parentheses are, the sum of the numbers is the same. (2+3)+5=2+(3+5)=10.

This is called the **Associative Property** in Algebra. You might see it like this:

$$(a+b)+c = a+(b+c)$$

The Associative Property also works for multiplication, so

$$(axb)xc = ax(bxc)$$

Lets take a look at that together...

Model 2x(1x3) below:



Now model (2x1)x3:





