12.3 - FACTORING POLYNOMIALS

***** Factoring Trinomials: $ax^2 + bx + c$

> THE BOX METHOD

- 1. Multiply the first and last terms: $ax^2 \times c$
- 2. Find the factors that multiply to be the product (in step 1) and that add to be the middle term: bx

Organize this information with an X-box \rightarrow

- 3. Draw a 2×2 square
- 4. Put the first term of the trinomial ax^2 in the upper-left corner and the constant term, *c*, in the lower-right corner.
- 5. Put the factors (from step 2) in the two remaining squares.
- 6. Find the GCF of each row & each column
- 7. Write the result as a product of two binomials.









Notes: Lessons 12.3 – Factoring Polynomials Examples for Day 2:

 $5. -20 + 9b - b^2 6. 4x^3 + 22x^2 + 24x$



