

Pg 529

$$\sum_{k=1}^n ar^{k-1} = a \left( \frac{1-r^n}{1-r} \right) \text{ From book}$$

So, given  $\sum_{k=1}^{15} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^k$  (for instance),

you need to "tweak" it into the proper form:

$$\left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^k = \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{k-1+1} = \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{k-1} \cdot \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^1, \text{ so that}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{15} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^k = \sum_{k=1}^{15} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{k-1} \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^1$$

$a = \frac{2}{3}, r = \frac{2}{3}, n = 15$  and the formula works.

The answer would be  $\frac{2}{3} \left( \frac{1 - \left( \frac{2}{3} \right)^{15}}{1 - \frac{2}{3}} \right)$

$$2/3 * (1 - (2/3)^{15}) / (1 - 2/3)$$

See Pg 529

or just  $\frac{1}{3}$ , but  
make sure it's  
in parentheses!