

Mathematics Glossary

acute angle	An angle with a measure less than 90° .
addend	Any number being added. In $32+4=36$, 32 and 4 are <i>addends</i> .
algorithm	A step-by-step method for computing.
area	The measure, in square units, of the inside of a plane figure.
array	An arrangement of objects in equal rows.
Associative Property	Changing the grouping of three or more <i>addends</i> does not change the <i>sum</i> . Changing the grouping of three or more <i>factors</i> does not change the <i>product</i> .
attribute	A characteristic of an object, such as color, shape, size, etc.
capacity	The maximum amount that can be contained by an object. Often refers to measurement of a liquid.
chord	Any <i>line segment</i> that joins two <i>points</i> on a circle.
circumference	The <i>perimeter</i> of a circle.
cluster	Data that are grouped together.
Commutative Property	Changing the order of the <i>addends</i> does not change the <i>sum</i> . Changing the order of the <i>factors</i> does not change the <i>product</i> .
composite number	A number greater than 0 that has more than two different factors. The number 9 is a <i>composite number</i> because it has three <i>factors</i> : 1, 3, and 9.
concave polygon	A <i>polygon</i> with one or more diagonals that have points outside the polygon.
cone	A solid bounded by a circular base and a curved surface with one <i>vertex</i> .
congruent	Having exactly the same size and shape.
convex polygon	A <i>polygon</i> with all interior angles measuring less than 180° . All diagonals of a <i>convex polygon</i> are inside the figure.
coordinate grid	A <i>two-dimensional</i> system in which the <i>coordinates</i> of a point are its distances from two intersecting, usually <i>perpendicular</i> , straight lines called axes.
coordinates	An ordered pair of numbers that identify a point on a coordinate plane or grid.
corresponding angles	Angles in the same position from one line to another.
cube (solid figure)	A regular solid with six congruent square faces.
customary system	A system of measurement used in the U.S. The system includes units for measuring length, capacity, and weight.

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cylinder	A three-dimensional figure with two circular bases that are <i>parallel</i> and <i>congruent</i> .
diameter	A <i>chord</i> that goes through the center of a circle.
difference	The amount that remains after one quantity is subtracted from another.
Distributive Property	When one of the <i>factors</i> of a <i>product</i> is a <i>sum</i> , multiplying each <i>addend</i> before adding does not change the <i>product</i> . For example: $6x(2+3)=(6x2)+(6x3)$
dividend	A number that is divided by another number.
divisor	The number by which another number is divided.
e.g.	This abbreviation means "for example." When used in the Core, <i>e.g.</i> is not limited to the examples given.
edge	The <i>line segment</i> where two <i>faces</i> of a solid figure meet.
elapsed time	The amount of time that passes between two times.
endpoint	A point at either end of a <i>line segment</i> , arc, or a point at one end of a <i>ray</i> .
equilateral triangle	A triangle with all sides the same length.
expanded form	A way to write numbers that shows the place value of each digit. $263 = 200 + 60 + 3$ or 263 is 2 hundreds, 60 tens, and 3 ones.
exponent	The number that tells how many equal <i>factors</i> there are.
expression	A variable or combination of variables, numbers, and operation symbols that represents a mathematical relationship. 6 , $2 + 3$, x , $x + 4$, and $x + 2y$ are all <i>expressions</i> .
face	A plane figure that serves as one side of a solid figure. The <i>faces</i> of a <i>cube</i> are squares.
factors	The <i>whole numbers</i> that are multiplied to get a <i>product</i> . In $6 \times 3 = 18$, 6 and 3 are factors of 18.
flip	A transformation creating a mirror image of a figure on the opposite side of a line. A <i>flip</i> is also called a <i>reflection</i> .
greatest common factor	The greatest number that is a <i>factor</i> of every number in a set of numbers. 3 is the <i>greatest common factor</i> of 9 and 15.
growing pattern	A pattern that grows or increases.
horizontal line	A line that is <i>parallel</i> to the horizon. A <i>horizontal line</i> is straight across.
i.e.	This abbreviation means "that is to say." When used in the Core, <i>i.e.</i> is limited to the specific examples given.
Identity Property of Addition	If you add zero to a number, the <i>sum</i> is the same as that number. For example, $8+0=8$.

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Identity Property of Multiplication	If you multiply a number by one, the <i>product</i> is the same as that number. For example, $18 \times 1 = 18$.
integers	<i>Whole numbers</i> and their opposites.
intersect	To meet or cross.
isosceles triangle	A triangle that has exactly two <i>congruent</i> sides.
least common multiple	The least common multiple of a set of two or more numbers. For example, the <i>least common multiple</i> of 3 and 5 is 15.
line	A set of connected points continuing without end in both directions.
line of symmetry	A line that divides a figure into two <i>congruent</i> halves that are mirror images of each other.
line plot	A graph showing frequency of data on a number line.
line segment	A part of a line with two <i>endpoints</i> .
mean	A number found by dividing the <i>sum</i> of two or more numbers by the number of <i>addends</i> . The <i>mean</i> is often referred to as the average.
metric system	A system of measurement based on tens. The basic unit of length is the meter. The basic unit of mass is the gram. The basic unit of <i>capacity</i> is the liter.
midpoint	The point on a <i>line segment</i> that divides it into two <i>congruent</i> segments.
mode	The number that appears most frequently in a set of numbers. There may be one, more than one, or no mode.
net	A <i>two-dimensional</i> shape that can be folded into a three-dimensional figure is a <i>net</i> of that figure.
numeral	A symbol used to represent a number.
obtuse angle	An angle with a measure greater than 90° and less than 180° .
obtuse triangle	A triangle with one <i>obtuse angle</i> .
one-to-one correspondence	The relationship between the spoken word and the written symbol.
Order of Operations	A set of rules that tells the order in which to compute.
ordinal number	A <i>whole number</i> that names the position of an object in sequence. First, second, and third are <i>ordinal numbers</i> .
outlier	A number in a set of data that is much larger or smaller than most of the other numbers in the set.

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parallel lines	Lines in the same plane that are always the same distance apart.
parallelogram	A <i>quadrilateral</i> with two pairs of <i>parallel</i> and <i>congruent</i> sides.
perimeter	The distance around a figure.
perpendicular	Forming <i>right angles</i> .
pi	The ratio of the <i>circumference</i> of any circle to its <i>diameter</i> , approximately equal to 3.14.
pictograph	A graph that uses pictures to show data.
plane	A flat surface that extends infinitely in all directions.
point	An exact location in space represented by a dot.
polygon	A closed plane figure made by <i>line segments</i> .
prime factorization	A way to show a number as the <i>product</i> of <i>prime factors</i> . The <i>prime factorization</i> of 12 is $2 \times 2 \times 3$.
prime number	A <i>whole number</i> greater than 0 that has exactly two different <i>factors</i> , 1 and itself. 5 is a <i>prime number</i> because its only <i>factors</i> are 1 and 5.
prism	A three-dimensional figure that has two <i>congruent</i> and <i>parallel</i> faces that are <i>polygons</i> . The rest of the faces are <i>parallelograms</i> .
product	The answer to a multiplication problem. For example, $6 \times 3 = 18$, 18 is the <i>product</i> of 6×3 .
pyramid	A polyhedron whose base is a <i>polygon</i> and whose other <i>faces</i> are triangles that share a common <i>vertex</i> .
quadrants	The four sections of a <i>coordinate grid</i> that are separated by the axes.
quadrilateral	A four-sided <i>polygon</i> .
quotient	The answer to a division problem.
radius	The segment, or the length of the segment, from the center of a circle to any point on the circle.
range	The difference between the greatest number and the least number in a set of numbers.
rational number	A number that can be expressed as a ratio of two non-zero <i>integers</i> .
ray	A part of a line that has one <i>endpoint</i> and goes on forever in one direction.
rectangular prism	A <i>prism</i> with six rectangular faces.
reflection	A transformation creating a mirror image of a figure on the opposite side of a line. A <i>reflection</i> is also called a <i>flip</i> .
region	A part of a plane.

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remainder	In <i>whole number</i> division, when you have divided as far as you can without using decimals, what has not been divided yet is the remainder.
repeating pattern	A pattern of a group of items that repeats over and over.
rhombus	A <i>parallelogram</i> with all four sides equal in length.
right angle	An angle that measures exactly 90° .
right triangle	A triangle that has one 90° angle.
rotation	The transformation that occurs when a figure is turned a certain angle and direction around a
Rules of Divisibility	Patterns that make it easier to tell whether one number is <i>divisible</i> by another.
scalene triangle	A triangle that has no <i>congruent</i> sides.
scientific notation	A form of writing numbers as the <i>product</i> of a power of 10 and a decimal number greater than or equal to 1 and less than 10.
similar figures	Figures that have the same shape, but not necessarily the same size.
slide	A transformation that slides a figure a given distance in a given direction. A <i>slide</i> is also called a <i>translation</i> .
square number	A number that is the result of multiplying an <i>integer</i> by itself. Any <i>square number</i> of dots can be arranged in a square array.
standard form	A number written with one digit for each place value. The <i>standard form</i> for the number three thousand three is 3,003.
straight angle	An angle with a measure of 180° .
sum	The answer to an addition problem. In $32+4=36$, 36 is the <i>sum</i> .
surface area	The total <i>area</i> of the <i>faces</i> (including bases) and curved surfaces of a solid figure.
translation	A transformation that slides a figure a given distance in a given direction. A <i>translation</i> is also called a <i>slide</i> .
trapezoid	A <i>quadrilateral</i> with one pair of <i>parallel</i> sides and one pair of sides that are not parallel.
turn	The transformation that occurs when a figure is turned a certain angle and direction around a point. A <i>turn</i> is also called a <i>rotation</i> .
two-dimensional	A figure that has length and width, but not height. Having <i>area</i> , but not <i>volume</i> . The image
vertex	The point at which two <i>line segments</i> , <i>lines</i> , or <i>rays</i> meet to form an angle.
vertical line	A line that has right angles to the horizon. A <i>vertical line</i> is straight up and down.

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vertices	Plural of <i>vertex</i> .
volume	The number of cubic units it takes to fill a figure.
whole number	Any of the numbers 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and so on.
Zero Property of Multiplication	The <i>product</i> of any number and zero is zero. For example, $8 \times 0 = 0$.