

**Bell Work**

Identify the pattern. Then find the next term in the sequence.

1. 4, 8, 16, 32, ... 64  
 $\times 2 \times 2 \times 2$   $4(2)^{n-1}$

2. 5, 15, 45, 135, ... 405  
 $\times 3 \times 3 \times 3$

3. 81, 27, 9, 3, 1, ...  $\frac{1}{3}$   
 $\times \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3}$

4. -4, 16, -64, 256, ... 1024  
 $\times -4$

When you are finished, try to write a rule for the nth term. Do you notice a pattern?

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(21) 1, 1.25, 1.50, ...

$S_{25} = \frac{25(1+7)}{2} = \$100$

$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$   
 $a_{25} = 1 + (25-1)(.25)$   
 $= 1 + 24(.25)$   
 $= 1 + 6$   
 $= 7$

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**GEOMETRIC SEQUENCE** 4-8-15

Arithmetic + or -      Geometric X

2, 4, 8, 16, 32, ...

A *geometric sequence* is a sequence that has a common ratio, r, which is **MULTIPLIED** by a term to get the next term.

$a_n = a_1(r)^{n-1}$        $r = \frac{2nd}{1st} = \frac{3rd}{2nd}$

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Decide whether the sequence is arithmetic, geometric or neither.

(a) 2, 8, 32, 128, ...  $\frac{8}{2}=4$   $\frac{32}{8}=4$  **Geo**

(b) 1, 4, 9, 16, ...  $\frac{4}{1}=4$   $\frac{9}{4}$  **Neither**

(c) -3, 6, -18, 54, ...  $\frac{6}{-3}=-2$   $\frac{-18}{6}=-3$  **Neither**

(d)  $5/3, 7/3, 8/3, \dots$   $\frac{7/3}{5/3}$   $\frac{8/3}{7/3}$  **Arith**

(e) -4, 4, 5, -5, ...  $\frac{4}{-4}=-1$   $\frac{5}{4}$  **Neither**

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**Find a term in the sequence**

Find the given term for each geometric sequence.

$a_n$  - nth term (what you are looking for)  
 $a_1$  - the first term in the sequence  
 $r$  - ratio  
 $n$  - total number of terms

$a_n = a_1 \cdot (r)^{n-1}$

**Examples:**

(a) 4, 8, 16, 32, ...; 7th term \_\_\_\_\_  
 $r = 2$   $4 \cdot 2 = 8$   $8 \cdot 2 = 16$   $16 \cdot 2 = 32$   $32 \cdot 2 = 64$   $64 \cdot 2 = 128$   $128 \cdot 2 = 256$   
 $4(2)^{7-1} = 4(2)^6$

(b) -3, 3, -3, 3, ...; 8th term \_\_\_\_\_  
 $r = -1$   $-3 \cdot (-1) = 3$   $3 \cdot (-1) = -3$   $-3 \cdot (-1) = 3$   $3 \cdot (-1) = -3$   $-3 \cdot (-1) = 3$   $3 \cdot (-1) = -3$   $-3 \cdot (-1) = 3$   
 $-3(-1)^7$

(c) 256, 64, 16, 4, 1/4, 1/16, ...; 10th term \_\_\_\_\_  
 $r = \frac{64}{256} = \frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 64 = 16$   $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 16 = 4$   $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 4 = 1$   $\frac{1}{4} \cdot 1 = \frac{1}{4}$   $\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16}$   $\frac{1}{16} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{64}$   $\frac{1}{64} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{256}$   
 $r = \frac{16}{64} = \frac{1}{4}$   
 $256(\frac{1}{4})^9$

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### Sequence Strips Activity

- Get into groups of 2.
- Each group needs one envelope with sequence strips and one piece of paper.

**GOAL:** Organize the strips into three groups. (Arithmetic, Geometric and Neither)

- After organize find the rule that applies to each strip and find the next three terms.
- Write all your answers on your paper.

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### Conclusion

1. What is an geometric sequence? *List of #s that you mult by a ratio to get next #*
2. How would you solve for  $a_1$ , using  $a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$ ?
3. Do you have to multiply by the same number in a geometric sequence? *yes!*
4. Questions???

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## Assignment: Geometric Sequences WS

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**GEOMETRIC SERIES**

4-9-15

A Geometric Series is formed when the terms of a geometric sequence are added together.

$$S_n = a_1 \left( \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r} \right)$$

You can continue the pattern then add or use the formula.

$$a_n = a_1 r^{n-1} \quad S_n = a_1 \left( \frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r} \right)$$

Ex. 1 - Find  $S_3$  for the series 5, 15, 45, 225, 1125 ...

Ex. 2 - Find  $S_8$  for the series 1, -5, 25, -125, 625 ...

Ex. 3 - Find  $S_{10}$  for the series 80, 40, 20, 10, 5, 2.5 ...

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**Conclusion**

1. What does  $S_n$  mean in a geometric series?
2. What must you do first when finding the sum if you do not know the last number in the sequence?
3. Questions???

**Assignment:  
Geometric Series WS**

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