

Glossary

A–D

Arabic numerals - the numbers created by using the digits 0 through 9 in specific place values

area - the measure of the space covered by a plane shape, expressed in square units

average - a measure of center in a set of numbers, usually referring to the *mean*

base - a particular side or face of a geometric figure used to calculate area or volume

circumference - the distance around the outside of a circle

coefficient - a quantity placed before and multiplying the variable in an algebraic expression

composite number - a number with more than two factors

congruent - having exactly the same size and shape

cube - a solid with six congruent faces that meet at right angles

decimal (fraction) - a fraction written using a decimal point and place value

decimal point - a dot used to separate whole numbers and fractions; also used to separate dollars and cents

decompose - to separate a number into parts

denominator - the bottom number in a fraction, which shows the number of parts in the whole

dimension - a measurement in a particular direction (length, width, height, depth)

dividend - the number being divided

divisor - a number that is being divided into another

E–G

equation - a mathematical statement that uses an equal sign to show that two expressions have the same value

equivalent - having the same value

estimate - a close approximation of an actual value

even number - any number that can be evenly divided by two

expanded notation - a way of writing numbers by showing each digit multiplied by its place value

factor - (n) a whole number that multiplies with another to form a product; (v) to find the factors of a given product

factor tree - a diagram used to find the prime factors of a composite number

fraction - a number indicating part of a whole

greatest common factor (GCF) - the greatest number that will divide evenly into two or more numbers

H-P

height - the perpendicular distance from the base to the top of a figure

improper fraction - a fraction with a numerator greater than its denominator

inequality - a mathematical statement showing that two expressions have different values

least common multiple (LCM) - the least number that is a multiple of two or more other numbers

mixed number - a number written as a whole number and a fraction

multiplicative inverse - the number that, when multiplied by a given number, has a product of 1; reciprocal

numerator - the top number in a fraction, which shows the number of parts being considered

odd number - any number that cannot be divided evenly by two

percent - a ratio with 100 as the second part; shown with the symbol %

pi - the Greek letter π , which represents an irrational number with an approximate value of $\frac{22}{7}$ or 3.14

place value - the position of a digit which indicates its assigned value

prime factorization - renaming a number as a product of two or more prime numbers

prime factors - all the factors of a number that are prime numbers

prime number - a number that has only two factors: one and itself

quadrilateral - a polygon with four sides

quotient - the result when numbers are divided

R-S

radius - the distance from the center of a circle to its edge; in a regular polygon, the distance from the center to any vertex; in a sphere, the distance from the center to any point on the surface; plural is *radii*

ratio - the relationship between two values; can be written in fractional form

reciprocal - the number that, when multiplied by a given number, has a product of 1; multiplicative inverse

rectangle - a quadrilateral with two pairs of opposite parallel sides and four right angles

rectangular solid - a three-dimensional shape with six rectangular faces

regrouping - composing or decomposing groups of ten when adding or subtracting

repeated division - a method for finding the prime factors of a number

right angle - an angle measuring 90 degrees

Roman numerals - a system used by the ancient Romans in which letters represent numbers

rounding - replacing a number with another that has approximately the same value but is easier to use

“Rule of Four” - A Math-U-See method for finding the common denominator of two fractions

“same-difference theorem” - a Math-U-See method for subtraction that adds the same value to minuend and subtrahend to avoid regrouping

simplify - to rewrite an expression as simply as possible; a simplified fraction will have a numerator and denominator with a single common factor of one

square - a quadrilateral in which the four sides are perpendicular and congruent

T–Z

trapezoid - a four-sided polygon with a set of parallel sides

unit - the place in a place-value system representing numbers less than the base

unit fraction - a fraction with a numerator of one

unknown - a specific quantity that has not yet been determined, usually represented by a letter

volume - the number of cubic units that can be contained in a solid