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Worksheet 4-1: Cartesian Plane and Ordered Pairs

Map vs. Cartesian Plane: Find the location of each animal.



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Name:	
Date: _	WS 4-1

Cartesian Plane

- **René Descartes**, a 17th century mathematician, developed a system for graphing ordered pairs (points) on a grid. This system is called the **Cartesian coordinate system**.
- The Cartesian plane is known as the *xy*-plane.
- The Cartesian coordinate system consists of a horizontal *x*-axis and a vertical *y*-axis.
- The intersection point of these axes is called the origin. The coordinates of the origin are (0, 0).
- The *x* and *y* axes divide the plane into 4 regions called **quadrants**. The axes themselves do not belong to any of the quadrants.

The **Cartesian plane** consists of two directed lines that **perpendicularly** intersect their respective zero points.



The **position of any point** on the Cartesian plane is described by using two numbers: (x, y).

The first number, x, is the **horizontal** position of the point from the origin. It is called the x-coordinate.

The second number, *y*, is the **vertical** position of the point from the origin. It is called the *y*-coordinate.

Since a specific order is used to represent the coordinates, they are called **ordered pairs**.

In each ordered pair, the *x*-value indicates the number of units to move left or right, and *y*-value indicates the number of units to move up or down.



Name:	 WIG 4 1
Date:	 WS 4-1

 Plot each set of points on the grid below. Join the points to form a quadrilateral. Identify the quadrilateral 	2. Plot these points. Connect the points in order. Name the polygon.
Set 1: A(1, 1), B(1, 5), C(-3, 5), D(-3, 1) Set 2: J(1, -3), K(5, 1), L(8, 1), M(4, -3) Set 3: P(-3, 0), Q(-6, -2), R(4, -4), S(10, 0)	(1, -1), (2, 1), (1, 3), (-1, 4), (-3, 3), (-4, 1), (-3, -1), (-1, -2), (1, -1)
y y	y y
5 5 x	-1 1 x
3. Plot these points. Connect the points in order. What picture do you see?	4. Make your own picture. Record the points in order. Exchange your picture code with a classmate and construct each other's picture.
$\begin{array}{l} (2, 1), (5, 5), (1, 2), (0, 5), (-1, 2), (-5, 5), \\ (-2, 1), (-5, 0), (-2, -1), (-5, -5), \\ (-1, -2), (0, -5), (1, -2), (5, -5), \\ (2, -1), (5, 0), (2, 1) \end{array}$	
(2, 1), (5, 5), (1, 2), (0, 5), (-1, 2), (-5, 5), (-2, 1), (-5, 0), (-2, -1), (-5, -5), (-1, -2), (0, -5), (1, -2), (5, -5), (2, -1), (5, 0), (2, 1)	y 1
(2, 1), (5, 5), (1, 2), (0, 5), (-1, 2), (-5, 5), (-2, 1), (-5, 0), (-2, -1), (-5, -5), (-1, -2), (0, -5), (1, -2), (5, -5), (2, -1), (5, 0), (2, 1)	y y
(2, 1), (5, 5), (1, 2), (0, 5), (-1, 2), (-5, 5), (-2, 1), (-5, 0), (-2, -1), (-5, -5), (-1, -2), (0, -5), (1, -2), (5, -5), (2, -1), (5, 0), (2, 1)	$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$
(2, 1), (5, 5), (1, 2), (0, 5), (-1, 2), (-5, 5), (-2, 1), (-5, 0), (-2, -1), (-5, -5), (-1, -2), (0, -5), (1, -2), (5, -5), (2, -1), (5, 0), (2, 1)	

Name: _	 W/G 4 1
Date:	WS 4-1

5. Plot each point on a Cartesian plane and state which quadrant it is in.

A (3, -1) B (-2, -4) C (-3, 2) D (5, 2) E (2, 0) F (0, -3) G (0, 4) H (-3, 0)



6. Name the coordinates for each point shown below.



Answers: 1. Set 1: square, Set 2: parallelogram, Set 3: trapezoid; 2. octagon; 3. star
5. A: 4th, B: 3rd, C: 2nd, D: 1st, E: none, F: none, G: none, H: none
6. B (2, -4), C (-5, 3), D (2, 5), E (0, 3), F (-4, -2), G (-3, 0), H (5, 0), J (0, -5)

Name:	
Date:	WS 4-1

7. Write the coordinates (or ordered pairs) of any five points whose first coordinates are -3. Then plot the points. How are these points related?



8. Write the coordinates (or ordered pairs) of any five points whose second coordinates are -5. Then plot the points. How are these points related?



Answers: 7. They lie on a vertical line; 8. They lie on a horizontal line.

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Date:	WS 4-1

9. (a) Plot each set of points and join them in order to form a quadrilateral. (Label each point.)(b) Identify each quadrilateral.

(i) A (1, 1), B (1, 5), C (-3, 5), D (-3, 1)



(ii) J (1, -3), K (5, 1), L (8, 1), M (4, -3)

