

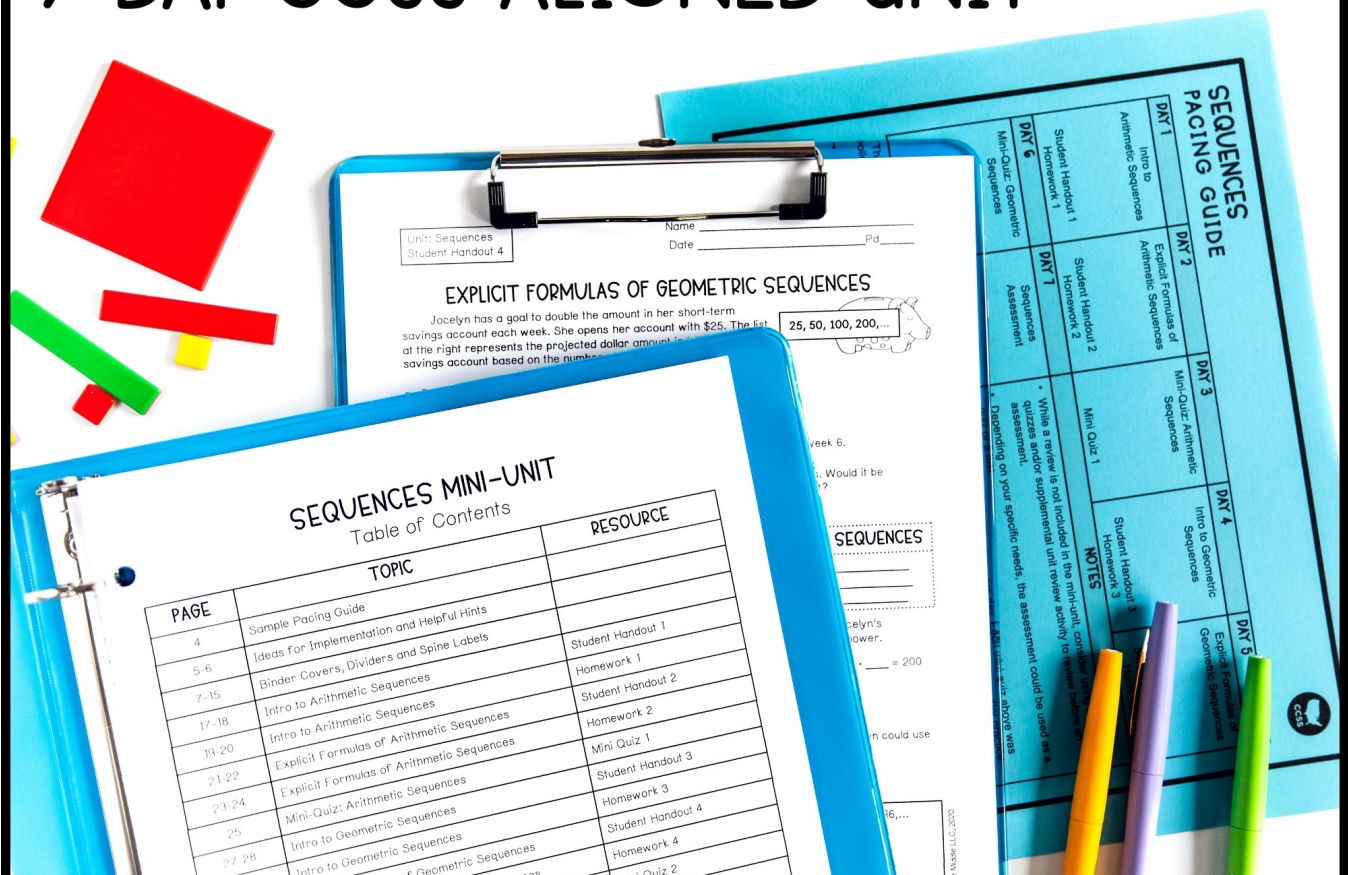
learning focus:

- ✓ recognize that sequences are functions
- ✓ create a graph to represent an arithmetic sequence
- ✓ write explicit and recursive formulas for geometric sequences

SEQUENCES MINI-UNIT

7 DAY CCSS-ALIGNED UNIT

**ALG
1**



A MANEUVERING THE MIDDLE® RESOURCE

SEQUENCES

**ALG
1**

a 7 day CCSS-aligned unit
CCSS: F.IF.3, F.BF.2, F.LE.2

**ready-to-go, scaffolded
student materials**

SEQUENCES MINI-UNIT

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CCSS: F.IF.3, F.BF.2, F.LE.2

student friendly + real-world
application

scaffolded
concepts

Unit: Sequences
Student Handout 1

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

INTRO TO ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES

Marco is building towers out of dominos. He uses a pattern to determine the number of dominos to use at each level, as shown below. Use the tower illustration to complete the table for levels 1-3 and answer a-c.

LEVEL	1	2	3	4
# OF DOMINOS				

- a. Write the number of dominos used at each level.
- b. Describe the pattern Marco is using to determine the number of dominos needed at each level.
- c. Complete the table for level 4 and sketch the tower he should build.

The number of dominos at each level forms a sequence. The number in the sequence is called a term. Use either subscript notation or words to describe the terms.

SUBSCRIPT NOTATION

a_n

a_n is the term; n is the position.

Using the domino example, answer questions 1-3.

1. What are the first three terms in the sequence?

$a_1 =$ _____ $a_2 =$ _____ $a_3 =$ _____

3. Without sketching a model, could you find the number of dominos for level 10?

An arithmetic sequence is a sequence in which the difference between consecutive terms is constant.

ARITHMETIC SEQUENCE

- A sequence where the difference between consecutive terms is constant.
- This constant difference is called the common difference.

Is the domino sequence an arithmetic sequence?

4. Determine if each sequence in the table is arithmetic. If so, record the common difference.

5. Explain how you could find future terms in the arithmetic sequences.

6. If a_n represents a term, how could you represent the term before a_n ?

SEQUENCE	ARITHMETIC?	COMMON DIFFERENCE
a. 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, ...		
b. {50, 42, 34, 26, ...}		
c. 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, ...		
d. {15, 20, 15, 20, ...}		

One of the ways to represent an arithmetic sequence is by using a recursive formula. A recursive formula will define a starting term, a_1 , as well as a process for finding the n^{th} term of the sequence using the previous term. Label the parts of the formulas shown.

A recursive formula for an arithmetic sequence is $a_n = a_{n-1} + d$. In your own words, describe what the first five terms of the sequence.

For 7-10, use your knowledge of sequences.

7. A sequence is generated using $a_n = a_{n-1} + 7$ where $a_1 = 10$. Write the first four terms of the sequence.
8. Use the recursive formula $a_n = a_{n-1} - 3$ to find the 10th term of the sequence.

10. The recursive formula for a sequence is $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2$ where $f(1) = 2$.

- a. List the first four terms of the sequence.
- b. Create a graph of the arithmetic sequence. Represent the term number, n , and term, $f(n)$. Describe the type of relationship.
- c. What is the domain of the function?

Unit: Sequences
Homework 1

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

INTRO TO ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES

Six sequences are given below. Use the sequences to answer questions 1-6. Show your work.

A. 12, 8, 4, 0, -4, ...

B. 19, 26, 30, 33, 35, ...

C. {30, 38, 46, 54, ...}

D. {16, 26, 36, 46, ...}

E. 81, 85, 89, 93, 97, ...

F. {5, 20, 80, 320, ...}

1. Which sequence(s) are NOT arithmetic?	2. Which sequence has a common difference of 4?	3. Find a_5 for sequence C.
4. Find the following for sequence D. $f(2) =$ $f(6) =$	5. Which sequence has a negative value for the common difference?	6. If $a_n = a_{n-1} + d$ represents sequence C, what is the value of d ?

Use your knowledge of sequences to answer questions 7-10.

7. A sequence is generated using $a_n = a_{n-1} - 5$ where $a_1 = 62$. Write the first five terms of the sequence.	8. The recursive formula of a sequence is shown below. What is the value of a_4 ? $a_1 = 16; a_n = a_{n-1} + 6$
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skill application

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CCSS: F.IF.3, F.BF.2, F.LE.2

streamline your planning
process with unit overviews

SEQUENCES OVERVIEW



STANDARDS

F.IF.3 Recognize that sequences are functions, sometimes defined recursively, whose domain is a subset of the integers.

F.BF.2 Write arithmetic and geometric sequences both recursively and with an explicit formula, use them to model situations, and translate between the two forms.

F.LE.2 Construct linear and exponential functions, including arithmetic and geometric sequences, given a graph, a description of a relationship, or two input-output pairs (include reading these from a table).

BIG IDEAS

- Lists of numbers can represent sequences and there are different types of sequences based on their patterns.
- Recursive formulas can be used to generate terms of a sequence.
- Sequences can also be represented by explicit formulas.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- How can you determine if a sequence is arithmetic or geometric?
- What type of function relationship does a sequence represent?
- When is it advantageous to use recursive formulas?
- When is it advantageous to use explicit formulas?



key vocabulary



vertical alignment



sample
pacing
calendar

SEQUENCES PACING GUIDE



DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
Intro to Arithmetic Sequences	Explicit Formulas of Arithmetic Sequences	Mini-Quiz: Arithmetic Sequences	Intro to Geometric Sequences	Explicit Formulas of Geometric Sequences
Student Handout 1 Homework 1	Student Handout 2 Homework 2		Student Handout 3	Student Handout 4
DAY 6	DAY 7			
Mini-Quiz: Geometric Sequences	Sequences Assessment			
Mini Quiz 2	Assessment			

*This mini-unit was designed to be flexible based on the needs of your students, following as examples where individual adjustments are needed.

- For teachers and/or districts who include arithmetic sequences included within the other unit.
- For teachers and/or districts who include geometric sequences included within the other unit.
- In each scenario above, specific questions from the unit are needed.

SEQUENCES OVERVIEW



TOPIC	TEACHING TIPS
Sequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many aspects of sequence notation will be new for students, so it may be helpful to build in time to teach students how to "read" the math. For example, "a_n" is read aloud as "a sub n," etc.
Arithmetic Sequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students can use alliteration to remember that generating terms in an arithmetic sequence involves adding a constant value between consecutive terms (even if the value added is a negative value).• Students can compare arithmetic sequences and their attributes to linear functions and relationships. As you work through examples, highlight that the domain of sequence functions will be integer numbers greater than or equal to 1. Therefore, sequences are a type of discrete linear functions.
Geometric Sequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students can compare geometric sequences and their attributes to exponential functions and relationships. It may be helpful to note, though, that sequences represent discrete functions while many exponential relationships are continuous. Discuss how this impacts the domain of sequence functions as compared to continuous exponential functions.• If comparing geometric sequences to exponential functions, it may be helpful to point out that the common ratio in a geometric sequence can be negative unlike exponential functions.• As an extension, consider visiting this site (or another similar site) to allow students to visualize the graph of a geometric sequence with a negative common ratio and compare it to the graph of an exponential function. https://demonstrations.wolfram.com/PlotOfAGeometricSequenceAndItsPartialSums/

teaching
ideas



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CCSS: F.IF.3, F.BF.2, F.LE.2

assessments + answer key



quizzes



editable unit test

Unit: Sequences
Mini Quiz 1

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

MINI-QUIZ: ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES

Use your knowledge of arithmetic sequences to answer 1-5.

1. Find the next term in each arithmetic sequence. a. -18, -10, -2, 6, ... b. 53, 47, 41, 35, ...	2. The recursive formula of a sequence is shown below. What is the common difference? $a_1 = 1$ $a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$	3. If $a_1 = 22$ and $a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$, write the first five terms of the sequence.
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4. Write an explicit formula to represent the sequence.
8, 17, 26, 35, ...

Unit: Sequences
Mini Quiz 2

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

MINI-QUIZ: GEOMETRIC SEQUENCES

Use your knowledge of geometric sequences to answer 1-5.

1. Find the next term in each geometric sequence. a. 256, 128, 64, 32, ... b. -1, -3, -9, -27, ...	2. The recursive formula represents the sequence $\{2, -2, 2, -2, \dots\}$. What is the value of a_5 ? $a_1 = 2$ $a_n = \frac{1}{2}a_{n-1}$	3. If $a_1 = 9$ and $a_n = 2a_{n-1}$, write the first five terms of the sequence.
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4. Write an explicit formula to represent the sequence.
6, -12, 24, -48, ...

Unit: Sequences
Mini Quiz 1

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

MINI-QUIZ: ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES

Use your knowledge of arithmetic sequences to answer 1-5.

1. Find the next term in each arithmetic sequence. a. -18, -10, -2, 6, ... b. 53, 47, 41, 35, ...	2. The recursive formula of a sequence is shown below. What is the common difference? $a_1 = 1$ $a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$	3. If $a_1 = 22$ and $a_n = a_{n-1} + 4$, write the first five terms of the sequence.
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4. Write an explicit formula to represent the sequence.
8, 17, 26, 35, ...

Unit: Sequences
Mini Quiz 2

Name _____
Date _____ Pd _____

MINI-QUIZ: GEOMETRIC SEQUENCES

Use your knowledge of geometric sequences to answer 1-5.

1. Find the next term in each geometric sequence. a. 256, 128, 64, 32, ... b. -1, -3, -9, -27, ...	2. The recursive formula represents the sequence $\{2, -2, 2, -2, \dots\}$. What is the value of a_5 ? $a_1 = 2$ $a_n = \frac{1}{2}a_{n-1}$	3. If $a_1 = 9$ and $a_n = 2a_{n-1}$, write the first five terms of the sequence.
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4. Write an explicit formula to represent the sequence.
6, -12, 24, -48, ...

ALGEBRA 1 CURRICULUM

SEQUENCES

UNIT ELEVEN: ANSWER KEY

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answer keys
included

