

BIG IDEAS

For Your Notebook

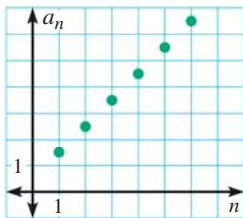
Big Idea 1

TEKS a.2

Analyze Sequences

The information below highlights the similarities and differences between arithmetic and geometric sequences.

Arithmetic Sequence



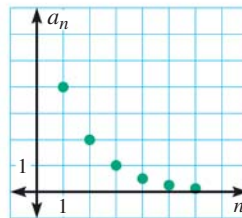
$$a_n = a_1 + (n - 1)d$$

First term: a_1

Common difference: d

Graph is linear.

Geometric Sequence



$$a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$$

First term: a_1

Common ratio: r

Graph is exponential.

Big Idea 2

TEKS a.2

Find Sums of Series

The most common formulas for sums of series are shown below.

Arithmetic Series	Geometric Series	Infinite Geometric Series
Sum of the first n terms: $S_n = n\left(\frac{a_1 + a_n}{2}\right)$	Sum of the first n terms: $S_n = a_1\left(\frac{1 - r^n}{1 - r}\right), r \neq 1$	Sum of the series: $S = \frac{a_1}{1 - r}, r < 1$
Example: $4 + 9 + 14 + 19 + 24$	Example: $3 + 6 + 12 + 24$	Example: $5 + 1 + 0.2 + 0.04 + \dots$
$S_5 = 5\left(\frac{4 + 24}{2}\right) = 70$	$S_4 = 3\left(\frac{1 - 2^4}{1 - 2}\right) = 45$	$S = \frac{5}{1 - 0.2} = 6.25$

Other common sum formulas:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n 1 = n$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n i^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

Big Idea 3

TEKS a.1

Use Recursive Rules

The table shows explicit and recursive rules for arithmetic and geometric sequences.

	Explicit Rule	Recursive Rule
Arithmetic Sequence	$a_n = a_1 + (n - 1)d$	$a_n = a_{n-1} + d$
Example: 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, ...	$a_n = 1 + 2n$	$a_1 = 3, a_n = a_{n-1} + 2$
Geometric Sequence	$a_n = a_1 r^{n-1}$	$a_n = r \cdot a_{n-1}$
Example: 8, 4, 2, 1, 0.5, ...	$a_n = 8(0.5)^{n-1}$	$a_1 = 8, a_n = 0.5a_{n-1}$