

EXAMPLE 2 Find the *y*-intercept of a line and write an equation

In the same viewing window, display the five lines that have a slope of 0.5 and *y*-intercepts of -2, -1, 0, 1, and 2. Then use the graphs to determine which line passes through the point (-2, -2). Write an equation of the line.

STEP 1 Enter equations

Press **y** and enter the five equations. Because the lines all have the same slope, they constitute a family of lines and can be entered as shown below.

STEP 2 Display graphs

Graph the equations in an appropriate viewing window. Press **TRACE** and use the left and right arrow keys to move along one of the lines until x = -2. Use the up and down arrow keys to see which line passes through (-2, -2).

STEP 3 Find the line

The line that passes through (-2, -2) is the line with a *y*-intercept of -1. So, an equation of the line is y = 0.5x - 1.







PRACTICE

Display the lines that have the same slope but different *y*-intercepts, as given, in the same viewing window. Determine which line passes through the given point. Write an equation of the line.

- **4.** Slope: -3; *y*-intercepts: -2, -1, 0, 1, 2; point: (4, -13)
- **5.** Slope: 1.5; *y*-intercepts: -2, -1, 0, 1, 2; point: (-2, -1)
- **6.** Slope: -0.5; *y*-intercepts: -3, -1.5, 0, 1.5, 3; point: (-4, 3.5)
- 7. Slope: 4; *y*-intercepts: -3, -1, 0, 1, 3; point: (2, 5)
- **8.** Slope: 2; *y*-intercepts: -6, -3, 0, 3, 6; point: (-2, -7)

DRAW CONCLUSIONS

- **9.** Of all the lines having equations of the form y = 0.5x + b, which one passes through the point (2, 2)? *Explain* how you found your answer.
- **10.** *Describe* a process you could use to find an equation of a line that has a slope of -0.25 and passes through the point (8, -2).