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6.1 Solving Systems by Graphing

Objectives: To solve systems by graphing
To analyze special types of systems
Apply a system to find the solution to a problem and interpret the solution

## DEFINITIONS:

System of Linear Equations:
Solution of a system of linear equations:

Problem 1: What is a solution of the system? Use a graph.

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{c}
y=x+2 \\
y=3 x-2
\end{array}\right.
$$



## Problem 2: Writing a System of Equations

Scientists studied the weights of two alligators over a period of 12 months. The initial weight and growth rate of each alligator are shown below. After how many months did the alligators weigh the same amount?

ALLIGATOR 1
Initial Weight: 4 lb
Rate of Growth: 1.5 lb per month


ALLIGATOR 2
Initial Weight: 6 lb
Rate of Growth: Ilb per month

a. Define the variables.

Let $\mathrm{t}=$ $\qquad$

$$
\mathrm{w}=
$$

$\qquad$
b. Write a system of two equations.
c. Graph the system and solve.


## MORE DEFINITIONS

A system can either be consistent (has an answer) or inconsistent (doesn't have an answer). If a system is consistent it will be either independent (only 1 answer) or dependent (infinite answers).

1. CONSISTENT - the system has a solution
a) INDEPENDENT - the system has ONE solution or
b) DEPENDENT - the system has INFINITE solutions
2. INCONSISTENT - the system has $N O$ solutions

## 3 Possible Solutions to a LINEAR system:

| Graphic <br> Solution |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Number <br> of <br> Solutions | 1 solution | Infinite solutions | No solutions |
| Algebraic Solution | The solution is where the lines cross ( $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$ ). <br> In the example above, the solution is $(-1,1)$ | These lines are the same line so they have every point in common, so there are infinite solutions. | These lines are parallel and don't have any points in common, so there is no solution. |
| Type of Solution | CONSISTENT <br> - INDEPENDENT | CONSISTENT <br> - DEPENDENT | INCONSISTENT |

Problem 3: What is the solution of each system? Use a graph.
a. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}2 y-x=2 \\ y=\frac{1}{2} x+1\end{array}\right.$

b. $\left\{\begin{array}{l}y=2 x+2 \\ y=2 x-1\end{array}\right.$


