# *Unit 9 Comparing Functions and Modeling

Content Area: **Mathematics**
Course(s): **Algebra 1 CP**
Time Period: **April**
Length: **8 blocks**
Status: **Published**

## Transfer Skills

In this unit students will have the opportunity to review all functions studied throughout the course. A student with a distinguished command of the concepts will be able to identify functions and compare and contrast properties of each function.

**Instructional Notes:** Students will need to calculate the average rate of change over various intervals as a method for comparing functions. Students will solve systems of functions at a basic level. This unit should be used to review all functions at varying levels.

## Enduring Understandings

Functions have distinct properties that help identify function types.

A variety of functions exist that can be used to model real life situations.

## Essential Questions

What makes one function different from another function?

How does the average rate of change over an interval help one identify a function type?

## Content

**Vocabulary**

function

linear

exponential

quadratic

cubic

cube root

square root

piece-wise

step functions

absolute value functions

average rate of change

## Skills

- Solve a simple system consisting of a linear equation and a quadratic equation in two variables algebraically and graphically. (Linear with quadratic, For example, find the points of intersection between the line $y = –3x$ and the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 3$.)
- Explain why the x-coordinates of the points where the graphs of the equations $y = f(x)$ and $y = g(x)$ intersect are the solutions of the equation $f(x) = g(x)$; find the solutions approximately, e.g., using technology to graph the functions, make tables of values, or find successive approximations.
- Calculate and interpret the average rate of change of a function (presented symbolically or as a table) over a specified interval. Estimate the rate of change from a graph. Compare this for various function types.
- Graph and recognize cubic, square root, cube root, and piecewise-defined functions, including step functions and absolute value functions.
- Observe using graphs and tables that a quantity increasing exponentially eventually exceeds a quantity increasing linearly, quadratically, or (more generally) as a polynomial function
- Distinguish between situations that can be modeled with linear functions and with exponential functions.
- Prove that linear functions grow by equal differences over equal intervals, and that exponential functions grow by equal factors over equal intervals.

## Resources

- Math IXL
- Delta Math

- Quizlet
- Khan Academy

## Standards

**NJSLS 2016**

**Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities**

**A -REI A. Understand solving equations as a process of reasoning and explain the reasoning**

**C. Solve systems of equations**

7. Solve a simple system consisting of a linear equation and a quadratic equation in two variables algebraically and graphically. For example, find the points of intersection between the line y = –3x and the circle x^2 + y^2 = 3.

**D. Represent and solve equations and inequalities graphically**

11. Explain why the x-coordinates of the points where the graphs of the equations y = f(x) and y = g(x) intersect are the solutions of the equation f(x) = g(x); find the solutions approximately, e.g., using technology to graph the functions, make tables of values, or find successive approximations. Include cases where f(x) and/or g(x) are linear, polynomial, rational, absolute value, exponential, and logarithmic functions.★

**Building Functions**

**F-BF A. Build a function that models a relationship between two quantities**

1. Write a function that describes a relationship between two quantities.★

b. Combine standard function types using arithmetic operations. For example, build a function that models the temperature of a cooling body by adding a constant function to a decaying exponential, and relate these

functions to the model.

**Interpreting Functions**

**F-IF A. Understand the concept of a function and use function notation**

2. Use function notation, evaluate functions for inputs in their domains, and interpret statements that use function notation in terms of a context.

3. Recognize that sequences are functions, sometimes defined recursively, whose domain is a subset of the integers. For example, the Fibonacci sequence is defined recursively by $f(0) = f(1) = 1$, $f(n+1) = f(n) + f(n-1)$ for $n \geq 1$.

**B. Interpret functions that arise in applications in terms of the context**

6. Calculate and interpret the average rate of change of a function (presented symbolically or as a table) over a specified interval. Estimate the rate of change from a graph.★

**C. Analyze functions using different representations**

9. Compare properties of two functions each represented in a different way (algebraically, graphically, numerically in tables, or by verbal descriptions). For example, given a graph of one quadratic function and an algebraic expression for another, say which has the larger maximum.

**A. Construct and compare linear and exponential models and solve problems**

1. Distinguish between situations that can be modeled with linear functions and with exponential functions.

a. Prove that linear functions grow by equal differences over equal intervals, and that exponential functions grow by equal factors over equal intervals.

b. Recognize situations in which one quantity changes at a constant rate per unit interval relative to another. c. Recognize situations in which a quantity grows or decays by a constant percent rate per unit interval relative to another.

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).

3. Observe using graphs and tables that a quantity increasing exponentially eventually exceeds a quantity increasing linearly, quadratically, or (more generally) as a polynomial function.

**Mathematics | Standards for Mathematical Practice**

**1 Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.**

Mathematically proficient students start by explaining to themselves the meaning of a problem and looking for entry points to its solution. They analyze givens, constraints, relationships, and goals. They make conjectures about the form and meaning of the solution and plan a solution pathway rather than simply jumping into a solution attempt. They consider analogous problems, and try special cases and simpler forms of the original problem in order to gain insight into its solution. They monitor and evaluate their progress and change course if necessary. Older students might, depending on the context of the problem, transform algebraic expressions or change the viewing window on their graphing calculator to get the information they need. Mathematically proficient students can explain correspondences between equations, verbal descriptions, tables, and graphs or draw diagrams of important features and relationships, graph data, and search for regularity or trends. Younger students might rely on using concrete objects or pictures to help conceptualize and solve a problem. Mathematically proficient students check their answers to problems using a different method, and they continually ask themselves, “Does this make sense?” They can understand the approaches of others to solving complex problems and identify correspondences between different approaches.

**2 Reason abstractly and quantitatively.**

Mathematically proficient students make sense of quantities and their relationships in problem situations. They bring two complementary abilities to bear on problems involving quantitative relationships: the ability to decontextualize—to abstract a given situation and represent it symbolically and manipulate the representing symbols as if they have a life of their own, without necessarily attending to their referents—and the ability to contextualize, to pause as needed during the manipulation process in order to probe into the referents for the symbols involved. Quantitative reasoning entails habits of creating a coherent representation of the problem at hand; considering the units involved; attending to the meaning of quantities, not just how to compute them; and knowing and flexibly using different properties of operations and objects.

**3 Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.**

Mathematically proficient students understand and use stated assumptions, definitions, and previously established results in constructing arguments. They make conjectures and build a logical progression of statements to explore the truth of their conjectures. They are able to analyze situations by breaking them into cases, and can recognize and use counterexamples. They justify their conclusions, communicate them to others, and respond to the arguments of others. They reason inductively about data, making plausible arguments that take into account

the context from which the data arose. Mathematically proficient students are also able to compare the effectiveness of two plausible arguments, distinguish correct logic or reasoning from that which is flawed, and—if there is a flaw in an argument—explain what it is. Elementary students can construct arguments using concrete referents such as objects, drawings, diagrams, and actions. Such arguments can make sense and be correct, even though they are not generalized or made formal until later grades. Later, students learn to determine domains to which an argument applies. Students at all grades can listen or read the arguments of others, decide whether they make sense, and ask useful questions to clarify or improve the arguments.

**4 Model with mathematics.**

Mathematically proficient students can apply the mathematics they know to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace. In early grades, this might be as simple as writing an addition equation to describe a situation. In middle grades, a student might apply proportional reasoning to plan a school event or analyze a problem in the community. By high school, a student might use geometry to solve a design problem or use a function to describe how one quantity of interest depends on another. Mathematically proficient students who can apply what they know are comfortable making assumptions and approximations to simplify a complicated situation, realizing that these may need revision later. They are able to identify important quantities in a practical situation and map their relationships using such tools as diagrams, two-way tables, graphs, flowcharts and formulas. They can analyze those relationships mathematically to draw conclusions. They routinely interpret their mathematical results in the context of the situation and reflect on whether the results make sense, possibly improving the model if it has not served its purpose.

**5 Use appropriate tools strategically.**

Mathematically proficient students consider the available tools when solving a mathematical problem. These tools might include pencil and paper, concrete models, a ruler, a protractor, a calculator, a spreadsheet, a computer algebra system, a statistical package, or dynamic geometry software. Proficient students are sufficiently familiar with tools appropriate for their grade or course to make sound decisions about when each of these tools might be helpful, recognizing both the insight to be gained and their limitations. For example, mathematically proficient high school students analyze graphs of functions and solutions generated using a graphing calculator. They detect possible errors by strategically using estimation and other mathematical knowledge. When making mathematical models, they know that technology can enable them to visualize the results of varying assumptions, explore consequences, and compare predictions with data. Mathematically proficient students at various grade levels are able to identify relevant external mathematical resources, such as digital content located on a website, and use them to pose or solve problems. They are able to use technological tools to explore and deepen their understanding of concepts.

**7 Look for and make use of structure.**

Mathematically proficient students look closely to discern a pattern or structure. Young students, for example, might notice that three and seven more is the same amount as seven and three more, or they may sort a collection of shapes according to how many sides the shapes have. Later, students will see $7 \times 8$ equals the well remembered $7 \times 5 + 7 \times 3$, in preparation for learning about the distributive property. In the expression $x2 + 9x + 14$, older students can see the 14 as $2 \times 7$ and the 9 as $2 + 7$. They recognize the significance of an existing line in a geometric figure and can use the strategy of drawing an auxiliary line for solving problems. They also can step back for an overview and shift perspective. They can see complicated things, such as some algebraic expressions, as single objects or as being composed of several objects. For example, they can see $5 – 3(x – y) 2$ as 5 minus a positive number times a square and use that to realize that its value cannot be more than 5 for any real numbers x and y.

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| MA.F-IF | Interpreting Functions |
| MA.K-12.1 | Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. |
| MA.F-IF.A | Understand the concept of a function and use function notation |
| MA.K-12.2 | Reason abstractly and quantitatively. |
| MA.F-IF.A.2 | Use function notation, evaluate functions for inputs in their domains, and interpret statements that use function notation in terms of a context. |
| MA.K-12.3 | Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others. |
| MA.F-IF.A.3 | Recognize that sequences are functions, sometimes defined recursively, whose domain is a subset of the integers. |
| MA.K-12.4 | Model with mathematics. |
| MA.F-IF.B | Interpret functions that arise in applications in terms of the context |
| MA.K-12.5 | Use appropriate tools strategically. |
| MA.F-IF.B.6 | Calculate and interpret the average rate of change of a function (presented symbolically or as a table) over a specified interval. Estimate the rate of change from a graph. |
| MA.F-IF.C | Analyze functions using different representations |
| MA.K-12.7 | Look for and make use of structure. |
| MA.F-IF.C.9 | Compare properties of two functions each represented in a different way (algebraically, graphically, numerically in tables, or by verbal descriptions). |
| MA.F-BF | Building Functions |
| MA.F-BF.A | Build a function that models a relationship between two quantities |
| MA.F-BF.A.1 | Write a function that describes a relationship between two quantities. |
| MA.F-BF.A.1b | Combine standard function types using arithmetic operations. |
| MA.A-REI | Reasoning with Equations and Inequalities |
| MA.F-LE.A | Construct and compare linear and exponential models and solve problems |
| MA.F-LE.A.1a | Prove that linear functions grow by equal differences over equal intervals, and that exponential functions grow by equal factors over equal intervals. |
| MA.F-LE.A.1b | Recognize situations in which one quantity changes at a constant rate per unit interval relative to another. |
| MA.A-REI.C | Solve systems of equations |
| MA.F-LE.A.1c | Recognize situations in which a quantity grows or decays by a constant percent rate per |

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| | unit interval relative to another. |
| MA.F-LE.A.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). |
| MA.F-LE.A.3 | Observe using graphs and tables that a quantity increasing exponentially eventually exceeds a quantity increasing linearly, quadratically, or (more generally) as a polynomial function. |
| MA.A-REI.C.7 | Solve a simple system consisting of a linear equation and a quadratic equation in two variables algebraically and graphically. |
| MA.A-REI.D | Represent and solve equations and inequalities graphically |
| MA.A-REI.D.11 | Explain why the $x$-coordinates of the points where the graphs of the equations $y = f(x)$ and $y = g(x)$ intersect are the solutions of the equation $f(x) = g(x)$; find the solutions approximately, e.g., using technology to graph the functions, make tables of values, or find successive approximations. Include cases where $f(x)$ and/or $g(x)$ are linear, polynomial, rational, absolute value, exponential, and logarithmic functions. |