## Lesson 12: Meaning of Exponents

Let’s see how exponents show repeated multiplication.

### 12.1: Notice and Wonder: Dots and Lines

What do you notice? What do you wonder?



### 12.2: The Genie’s Offer

You find a brass bottle that looks really old. When you rub some dirt off of the bottle, a genie appears! The genie offers you a reward. You must choose one:

$50,000 or a magical $1 coin.

The coin will turn into two coins on the first day. The two coins will turn into four coins on the second day. The four coins will double to 8 coins on the third day. The genie explains the doubling will continue for 28 days.

1. The number of coins on the third day will be $2⋅2⋅2$. Write an equivalent expression using exponents.
2. What do $2^{5}$ and $2^{6}$ represent in this situation? Evaluate $2^{5}$ and $2^{6}$ without a calculator. Pause for discussion.
3. How many days would it take for the number of magical coins to exceed $50,000?
4. Will the value of the magical coins exceed a million dollars within the 28 days? Explain or show your reasoning.

#### Are you ready for more?

A scientist is growing a colony of bacteria in a petri dish. She knows that the bacteria are growing and that the number of bacteria doubles every hour.

When she leaves the lab at 5 p.m., there are 100 bacteria in the dish. When she comes back the next morning at 9 a.m., the dish is completely full of bacteria. At what time was the dish half full?

### 12.3: Make 81

1. Here are some expressions. All but one of them equals 16. Find the one that is *not* equal to 16 and explain how you know.
* $2^{3}⋅2$
* $4^{2}$
* $\frac{2^{5}}{2}$
* $8^{2}$
1. Write three expressions containing exponents so that each expression equals 81.

### Lesson 12 Summary

When we write an expression like $2^{n}$, we call $n$ the exponent.

If $n$ is a positive whole number, it tells how many factors of 2 we should multiply to find the value of the expression. For example, $2^{1}=2$, and $2^{5}=2⋅2⋅2⋅2⋅2$.

There are different ways to say $2^{5}$. We can say “two raised to the power of five” or “two to the fifth power” or just “two to the fifth.”



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