Lesson 10: Interpreting Graphs of Proportional Relationships

Student Outcomes

- Students consolidate their understanding of equations representing proportional relationships as they interpret what points on the graph of a proportional relationship mean in terms of the situation or context of the problem, including the point $(0, 0)$.
- Students are able to identify and interpret in context the point $(1, r)$ on the graph of a proportional relationship where r is the unit rate.

Classwork

Examples (15 minutes)

Example 1 is a review of previously taught concepts, but the lesson will be built upon this example. Pose the challenge to the students to complete the table.

Have students work individually and then compare and critique each other's work with a partner.

MP.1 & MP.2

Example 1

Grandma's Special Chocolate Chip Cookie recipe, which yields 4 dozen cookies, calls for 3 cups of flour. Using this information, complete the chart:

| Create a table comparing the amount of flour used to the amount of cookies.	Is the number of cookies proportional to the amount of flour used? Explain why or why not.	What is the unit rate of cookies to flour $\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$, and what is the meaning in the context of the problem?
 	Number of Cups of Flour	Number of Dozens of Cookies
3	4
6	8
12	16		*Yes, because there exists a constant, $\frac{4}{3}$ or $1\frac{1}{3}$, such that each measure of the cups of flour multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measure of cookies.*	*$1\frac{1}{3}$* *$1\frac{1}{3}$ dozen cookies, or 16 cookies for 1 cup of flour*
Model the relationship on a graph. 	Does the graph show the two quantities being proportional to each other? Explain. *The points appear on a line that passes through the origin $(0, 0)$.*	Write an equation that can be used to represent the relationship. $D = 1\frac{1}{3}F,\ D = 1.\overline{3}F$, or $D = \frac{4}{3}F$ *D represents the number of dozens of cookies* *F represents the number of cups of flour*
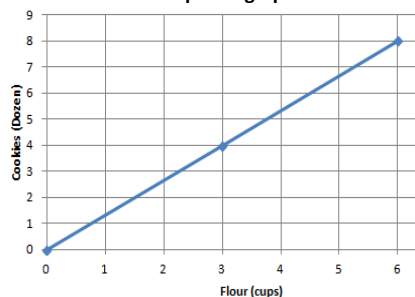
Example 2

Below is a graph modeling the amount of sugar required to make Grandma's Chocolate Chip Cookies.
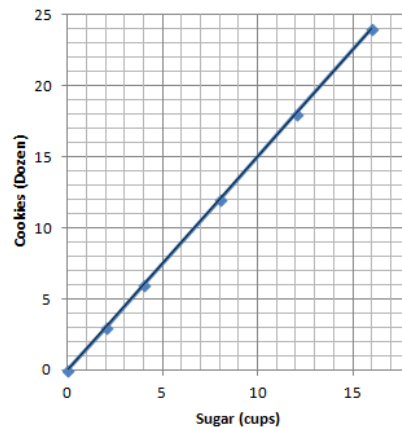
a.   Record the coordinates from the graph in a table. What do these ordered pairs represent?

$(0, 0)$; *0 cups of sugar will result in 0 dozen cookies*

$(2, 3)$; *2 cups of sugar yields 3 dozen cookies*

$(4, 6)$; *4 cups of sugar yields 6 dozen cookies*

$(8, 12)$; *8 cups of sugar yields 12 dozen cookies*

$(12, 18)$; *12 cups of sugar yields 18 dozen cookies*

$(16, 24)$; *16 cups of sugar yields 24 dozen cookies*

b.   Grandma has 1 remaining cup of sugar. How many dozen cookies will she be able to make? Plot the point on the graph above.

1.5 *dozen cookies*

c.   How many dozen cookies can grandma make if she has no sugar? Can you graph this on the coordinate plane provided above? What do we call this point?

$(0, 0)$; *0 cups of sugar will result in 0 dozen cookies. The point is called the origin.*

Generate class discussion using the following questions to lead to the conclusion that the point $(1, r)$ must be on the graph and what it means.

- How is the unit rate of $\frac{y}{x}$, or in this case $\frac{B}{A}$, related to the graph?
  - *The unit rate must be the value of the y-coordinate of the point on the graph, which has an x-coordinate of one.*
- What quantity is measured along the horizontal axis?
  - *The number of cups of sugar*
- When you plot the ordered pair (A, B), what does A represent?
  - *The amount of sugar, in cups, that is needed to make B dozen cookies*

- What quantity is measured along the vertical axis?
  - *The amount of cookies (number of dozens)*
- When you plot the point (A, B), what does B represent?
  - *The total amount of cookies, in dozens, that can be made with A cups of sugar*
- What is the unit rate for this proportional relationship?
  - *1.5*
- Starting at the origin, if you move one unit along the horizontal axis, how far would you have to move vertically to reach the line you graphed?
  - *1.5 units*
- Continue moving one unit at a time along the horizontal axis. What distance, vertically, did you move?
  - *1.5 units*
- Why are we always moving 1.5 units vertically?
  - *The unit rate is 1.5 dozen cookies for every 1 cup of sugar. The vertical axis, or y-value, represents the number of dozens of cookies. Since the unit rate is 1.5, every vertical move would equal the unit rate of 1.5 units.*
- Do you think the vertical move will always be equal to the rate when moving 1 unit horizontally whenever two quantities that are proportional are graphed?
  - *Yes, the vertical distance will always be equal to the unit rate when moving one unit horizontally on the axis.*
- Graphs of different proportional relationship have different points, but what point must be on every graph of a proportional relationship? Explain why.
  - *The point $(1, r)$ or unit rate must be on every graph because the unit rate describes the change in the vertical distance for every 1 unit change in the horizontal axis.*

Exercises (20 minutes)

Exercises

1. The graph below shows the amount of time a person can shower with a certain amount of water.
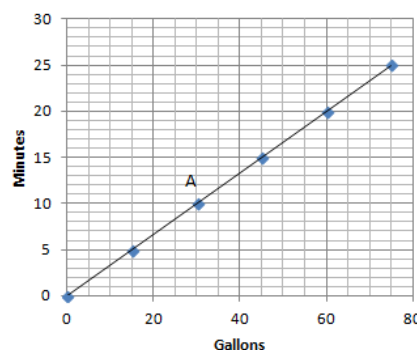
    a. Can you determine by looking at the graph whether the length of the shower is proportional to the number of gallons of water? Explain how you know.

    Yes, the quantities are proportional to each other since all points lie on a line that passes through the origin $(0, 0)$.

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b.   How long can a person shower with 15 gallons of water? How long can a person shower with 60 gallons of water?

5 minutes, 20 minutes

c.   What are the coordinates of point A? Describe point A in the context of the problem.

$(30, 10)$. If there are 30 gallons of water, then a person can shower for 10 minutes.

d.   Can you use the graph to identify the unit rate?

Since the graph is a line that passes through $(0, 0)$ and $(1, r)$, you can take a point on the graph, such as $(15, 5)$ and get $\frac{1}{3}$.

e.   Plot the unit rate on the graph. Is the point on the line of this relationship?

Yes, the unit rate is a point on the graph of the relationship.

f.   Write the equation to represent the relationship between the number of gallons of water used and the length of a shower.

$m = \frac{1}{3} g$, where m represents the number of minutes and g represents the number of gallons of water.

2.   Your friend uses the equation $C = 50P$ to find the total cost, C, for the number of people, P, entering a local amusement park.

a.   Create a table and record the cost of entering the amusement park for several different-sized groups of people.

| Number of People (P)	Total Cost (in dollars, C)
0	0
1	50
2	100
3	150

b.   Is the cost of admission proportional to the amount of people entering the amusement park? Explain why or why not.

Yes. The cost of admission is proportional to the amount of people entering the amusement park because there exists a constant (50), such that each measure of the amount of people multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measures of cost.

c.   What is the unit rate, and what does it represent in the context of the situation?

50; 1 person costs $50

d.   Sketch a graph to represent this relationship.

Amusement Park Admission

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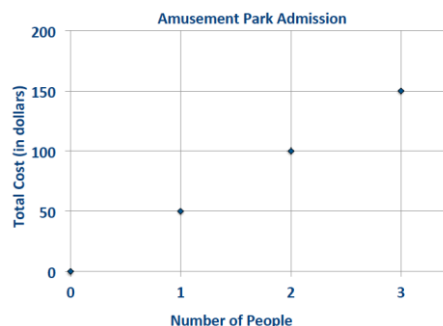
e.   **What points must be on the graph of the line if the two quantities represented are proportional to each other? Explain why and describe these points in the context of the problem.**

$(0, 0)$ and $(1, 50)$. If 0 people enter the park, then the cost would be $\$0$. If 1 person enters the park, the cost would be $\$50$. For every 1-unit increase along the horizontal axis, the change in the vertical distance is 50 units.

f.   **Would the point $(5, 250)$ be on the graph? What does this point represent in the context of the situation?**

Yes, the point $(5, 250)$ would be on the graph because $5(50) = 250$. The meaning is that it would cost a total of $\$250$ for 5 people to enter the amusement park.

Closing (5 minutes)

- What points are always on the graph of two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - *The points $(0,0)$ and $(1, r)$, where r is the unit rate, are always on the graph.*
- How can you use the unit rate of $\frac{y}{x}$ to create a table, equation, or graph of a relationship of two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - *In a table, you can multiply each x-value by the unit rate to obtain the corresponding y-value, or you can divide every y-value by the unit rate to obtain the corresponding x-value. You can use the equation $y = kx$ and replace the k with the unit rate of $\frac{y}{x}$. In a graph, the points $(1, r)$ and $(0,0)$ must appear on the line of the proportional relationship.*
- How can you identify the unit rate from a table, equation, or graph?
  - *From a table, you can divide each y-value by the corresponding x-value. If the ratio $y : x$ is equivalent for the entire table, then the value of the ratio, $\frac{y}{x}$, is the unit rate, and the relationship is proportional. In an equation in the form $y = kx$, the unit rate is the number represented by the k. If a graph of a line passes through the origin and contains the point $(1, r)$, r representing the unit rate, then the relationship is proportional.*
- How do you determine the meaning of any point on a graph that represents two quantities that are proportional to each other?
  - *Any point (A, B) on a graph that represents a proportional relationship represents a number A corresponding to the x-axis or horizontal unit, and B corresponds to the y-axis or vertical unit.*

Lesson Summary

The points $(0, 0)$ and $(1, r)$, where r is the unit rate, will always appear on the line representing two quantities that are proportional to each other.

- The unit rate, r, in the point $(1, r)$ represents the amount of vertical increase for every horizontal increase of 1 unit on the graph.
- The point $(0, 0)$ indicates that when there is zero amount of one quantity, there will also be zero amount of the second quantity.

These two points may not always be given as part of the set of data for a given real-world or mathematical situation, but they will always appear on the line that passes through the given data points.

Exit Ticket (5 minutes)

Name _____   Date_____

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Exit Ticket

Great Rapids White Water Rafting Company rents rafts for $125 per hour. Explain why the point (0,0) and (1,125) are on the graph of the relationship, and what these points mean in the context of the problem.

Exit Ticket Sample Solutions

Great Rapids White Water Rafting Company rents rafts for $125 per hour. Explain why the point $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 125)$ are on the graph of the relationship, and what these points mean in the context of the problem.

Every graph of a proportional relationship must include the points $(0, 0)$ and $(1, r)$. The point $(0, 0)$ is on the graph because 0 can be multiplied by the constant to determine the corresponding value of 0. The point $(1, 125)$ is on the graph because it is the unit rate. On the graph, for every 1 unit change on the horizontal axis, the vertical axis will change by 125 units. The point $(0, 0)$ means 0 hours of renting a raft would cost $\$0$, and $(1, 125)$ means 1 hour of renting the raft would cost $\$125$.

Problem Set Sample Solutions

1. **The graph to the right shows the relationship of the amount of time (in seconds) to the distance (in feet) run by a jaguar.**

   a. **What does the point $(5, 290)$ represent in the context of the situation?**

      In 5 seconds, a jaguar can run 290 feet.

   b. **What does the point $(3, 174)$ represent in the context of the situation?**

      A jaguar can run 174 feet in 3 seconds.

   Jaguar's Speed: Time and Distance

   c. **Is the distance run by the jaguar proportional to the time? Explain why or why not.**

      Yes, the distance run by the jaguar is proportional to the time spent running because the graph shows a line that passes through the origin $(0, 0)$.

   d. **Write an equation to represent the distance run by the jaguar. Explain or model your reasoning.**

      $y = 58x$

      The constant of proportionality, or unit rate of $\dfrac{y}{x}$, is 58 and can be substituted into the equation $y = kx$ in place of k.
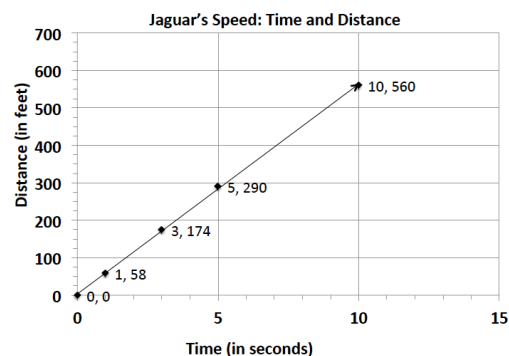
2. **Championship t-shirts sell for $22 each.**

   a. **What point(s) must be on the graph for the quantities to be proportional to each other?**

      $(0, 0), (1, 22)$

   b. **What does the ordered pair $(5, 110)$ represent in the context of this problem?**

      5 t-shirts will cost $\$110$.

   c. **How many t-shirts were sold if you spent a total of $88?**

      $4; \dfrac{88}{22} = 4$

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3. The graph represents the total cost of renting a car. The cost of renting a car is a fixed amount each day, regardless of how many miles the car is driven.

   Car Rental Fee

   a. What does the ordered pair $(4, 250)$ represent?

   It would cost $250 to rent a car for 4 days.

   b. What would be the cost to rent the car for a week? Explain or model your reasoning.

   Since the unit rate is 62.5, the cost for a week would be $62.5(7) = \$437.50$.
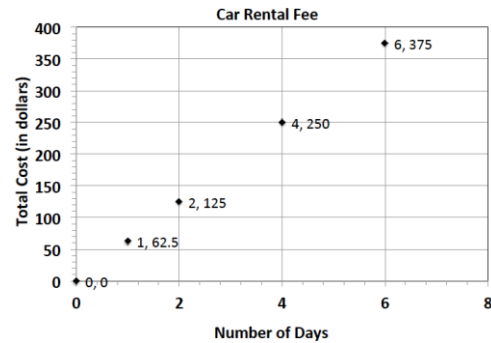
4. Jackie is making a snack mix for a party. She is using cashews and peanuts. The table below shows the relationship of the number of packages of cashews she needs to the number of cans of peanuts she needs to make the mix.

Packages of Cashews	Cans of Peanuts
0	0
1	2
2	4
3	6
4	8

   a. What points must be on the graph for the number of cans of peanuts to be proportional to the number of packages of cashews? Explain why.

   $(0, 0)$ and $(1, 2)$. All graphs of proportional relationships are lines that pass through the origin $(0, 0)$ and the unit rate $(1, r)$.

   b. Write an equation to represent this relationship.

   $y = 2x$, where x represents the number of packages of cashews and y represents the number of cans of peanuts.

   c. Describe the ordered pair $(12, 24)$ in the context of the problem.

   In the mixture, you will need 12 packages of cashews and 24 cans of peanuts.

5. The following table shows the amount of candy and price paid.

Amount of Candy (in pounds)	2	3	5
Cost (in dollars)	5	7.5	12.5

   a. Is the cost of the candy proportional to the amount of candy?

   Yes, because there exists a constant, 2.5, such that each measure of the amount of candy multiplied by the constant gives the corresponding measure of cost.

   b. Write an equation to illustrate the relationship between the amount of candy and the cost.

   $y = 2.5x$

   c. Using the equation, predict how much it will cost for 12 pounds of candy.

   $2.5(12) = \$30$

d.   **What is the maximum amount of candy you can buy with $60?**

$$\frac{60}{2.5} = 24 \text{ pounds}$$

e.   **Graph the relationship**

Cost of Candy

Amount of Candy (in pounds) on the horizontal axis (0 to 5); Total Cost (in dollars) on the vertical axis (0 to 14).