

A decorative border made of small yellow dots arranged in a circular pattern around the text.

Linear or Not Linear Function Card Sort

20 Cards

12 equations

8 tables

Students sort cards into two categories, linear or not linear. Ask students to justify their categories.

$$y = -3x$$

$$y = 5 - 4x$$

$$y = 1/x$$

$$y = 2 + 5x^2$$

$$y = -x$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x - 4$$

$$y = \frac{-2}{x}$$

$$y = 4.3x - 2$$

$$y = 9 + 3x$$

$$y = -\frac{2}{5}x$$

$$y = -x^2 - 5$$

$$y = 9 - 3.5x$$

x	y
0	10
1	21
2	32
3	43

x	y
0	-5
3	-1
6	3
9	7

x	y
3	-5
4	1
5	6
6	11

x	y
-2	1
-3	2
-4	4
-5	8

x	y
2	11
3	13
4	15
5	17

x	y
0	4
1	8
2	12
3	16

x	y
-1	5
-2	11
-3	21
-4	35

x	y
0	-3
-1	-8
-2	-13
-3	-18

Create an equation that is linear.

Create an equation that is nonlinear.

Create a table of values that represents a linear function.

Create a table of values that represents a nonlinear function.

KEY

$$y = -3x$$

Linear

$$y = 5 - 4x$$

Linear

$$y = 1/x$$

Not Linear

$$y = 2 + 5x^2$$

Not Linear

$$y = -x$$

Linear

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x - 4$$

Linear

$$y = \frac{-2}{x}$$

Not Linear

$$y = 4.3x - 2$$

Linear

$$y = 9 + 3x$$

Linear

$$y = -\frac{2}{5}x$$

Linear

$$y = -x^2 - 5$$

Not Linear

$$y = 9 - 3.5x$$

Linear

x	y
0	10
1	21
2	32
3	43
Linear	

x	y
0	-5
3	-1
6	3
9	7
Linear	

x	y
3	-5
4	1
5	6
6	11
Not Linear	

x	y
-2	1
-3	2
-4	4
-5	8
Not Linear	

x	y
2	11
3	13
4	15
5	17
Linear	

x	y
0	4
1	8
2	12
3	16
Linear	

x	y
-1	5
-2	11
-3	21
-4	35
Not Linear	

x	y
0	-3
-1	-8
-2	-13
-3	-18
Linear	

Create an equation that is linear.

Create an equation that is nonlinear.

Create a table of values that represents a linear function.

Create a table of values that represents a nonlinear function.

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