3.4 Graphing Linear Equations in Standard Form
For use with Exploration 3.4

Essential Question: How can you describe the graph of the equation $Ax + By = C$?

1. EXPLORATION: Using a Table to Plot Points

Go to BigIdeasMath.com for an interactive tool to investigate this exploration.

Work with a partner. You sold a total of $16 worth of tickets to a fundraiser. You lost track of how many of each type of ticket you sold. Adult tickets are $4 each. Child tickets are $2 each.

\[
\text{Number of adult tickets} \cdot \text{adult} + \text{Number of child tickets} \cdot \text{child} = \text{total}.
\]

a. Let $x$ represent the number of adult tickets. Let $y$ represent the number of child tickets. Use the verbal model to write an equation that relates $x$ and $y$.

b. Complete the table to show the different combinations of tickets you might have sold.

\[
\begin{array}{cc}
x & \\
y & \\
\end{array}
\]

c. Plot the points from the table. Describe the pattern formed by the points.

\[
\begin{array}{cc}
x & \\
y & \\
\end{array}
\]

d. If you remember how many adult tickets you sold, can you determine how many child tickets you sold? Explain your reasoning.
3.4 Graphing Linear Equations in Standard Form (continued)

2 EXPLORATION: Rewriting and Graphing an Equation

Go to BigIdeasMath.com for an interactive tool to investigate this exploration.

Work with a partner. You sold a total of $48 worth of cheese. You forgot how many pounds of each type of cheese you sold. Swiss cheese costs $8 per pound. Cheddar cheese costs $6 per pound.

\[
\text{Pounds of Swiss} \cdot \text{pound} + \text{Pounds of cheddar} \cdot \text{pound} = \text{Pounds of Swiss cheese} \cdot \text{Swiss cheese} + \text{Pounds of cheddar cheese} \cdot \text{Cheddar cheese} = \text{Total worth sold}
\]

a. Let \(x\) represent the number of pounds of Swiss cheese. Let \(y\) represent the number of pounds of cheddar cheese. Use the verbal model to write an equation that relates \(x\) and \(y\).

b. Solve the equation for \(y\). Then use a graphing calculator to graph the equation. Given the real-life context of the problem, find the domain and range of the function.

c. The \(x\)-intercept of a graph is the \(x\)-coordinate of a point where the graph crosses the \(x\)-axis. The \(y\)-intercept of a graph is the \(y\)-coordinate of a point where the graph crosses the \(y\)-axis. Use the graph to determine the \(x\)- and \(y\)-intercepts.

d. How could you use the equation you found in part (a) to determine the \(x\)- and \(y\)-intercepts? Explain your reasoning.

e. Explain the meaning of the intercepts in the context of the problem.

Communicate Your Answer

3. How can you describe the graph of the equation \(Ax + By = C\)?

4. Write a real-life problem that is similar to those shown in Explorations 1 and 2.
3.4 Notetaking with Vocabulary
For use after Lesson 3.4

In your own words, write the meaning of each vocabulary term.

standard form

$x$-intercept

$y$-intercept

Core Concepts

Horizontal and Vertical Lines

The graph of $y = b$ is a horizontal line.
The line passes through the point $(0, b)$.

The graph of $x = a$ is a vertical line.
The line passes through the point $(a, 0)$.

Notes:
3.4 Notetaking with Vocabulary (continued)

Using Intercepts to Graph Equations

The $x$-intercept of a graph is the $x$-coordinate of a point where the graph crosses the $x$-axis. It occurs when $y = 0$.

The $y$-intercept of a graph is the $y$-coordinate of a point where the graph crosses the $y$-axis. It occurs when $x = 0$.

To graph the linear equation $Ax + By = C$, find the intercepts and draw the line that passes through the two intercepts.

- To find the $x$-intercept, let $y = 0$ and solve for $x$.
- To find the $y$-intercept, let $x = 0$ and solve for $y$.

Notes:

Extra Practice

In Exercises 1 and 2, graph the linear equation.

1. $y = -3$
2. $x = 2$
3.4 Notetaking with Vocabulary (continued)

In Exercises 3–5, find the $x$- and $y$-intercepts of the graph of the linear equation.

3. $3x + 4y = 12$  
4. $-x - 4y = 16$  
5. $5x - 2y = -30$

In Exercises 6 and 7, use intercepts to graph the linear equation. Label the points corresponding to the intercepts.

6. $-8x + 12y = 24$  
7. $2x + y = 4$

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8. The school band is selling sweatshirts and baseball caps to raise $9000 to attend a band competition. Sweatshirts cost $25 each and baseball caps cost $10 each. The equation $25x + 10y = 9000$ models this situation, where $x$ is the number of sweatshirts sold and $y$ is the number of baseball caps sold.

a. Find and interpret the intercepts.

b. If 258 sweatshirts are sold, how many baseball caps are sold?

c. Graph the equation. Find two more possible solutions in the context of the problem.