

**Toolkit #7:  
Exponentials**

**Multiple representations of Exponentials**

**Situation:**

Susan got two rabbits from the animal shelter last summer. A month later, those rabbits have babies and then she had 6 rabbits. After a few months she realized that her number of rabbits triples every month. At this rate, how many rabbits will she have a year after she first got the rabbits?

$$y = 2(3)^{12} = 2(531,441) = 1,062,882$$

**Equation:**

$$y = ab^x$$

a = initial value

b = multiplier

**Define variables:**

Let x represent time since Susan got the rabbits (in months).

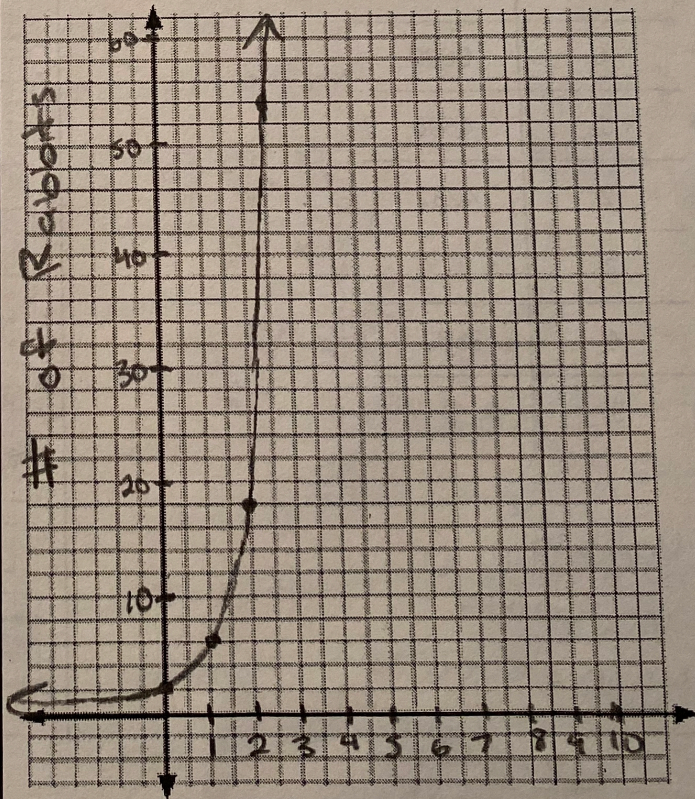
Let y represent the # of rabbits.

Equation:  $y = 2(3)^x$

**Table:**

Time (months)	# of rabbits
0	2
1	6
2	18
3	54
4	162
5	486
6	1,458
7	4,374
8	13,122
9	39,366
10	118,098
11	354,294
12	1,062,882

**Graph:**



# of months since she first got rabbits



# Multiple representations of Exponentials

## Situation:

In 2019 Ms. Ramer bought a used car: a 2007 Toyota Prius for \$5,000.

- The value of the car will depreciate each year by approximately 8%.
- In 2007, the car had a value of \$13,599.
- If Ms. Ramer keeps her car until 2030, it will be worth about \$1,998.
- The graph of this situation has an asymptote. That means that, theoretically, the car will never be zero \$.

## Equation:

$$y = ab^x$$

a = initial value

b = multiplier

### Define variables:

Let  $x$  represent the # of years after Ms. Ramer bought the prius

Let  $y$  represent the value \$ of the prius

### Equation:

$$y = 5000(.92)^x$$

$$y = 5000(.92)^{-12} \approx \$13,599$$

$$y = 5000(.92)^{11} \approx \$1,998.8$$

## Table:

Time since Purchase (years)	Value of car (dollars)
0	5000
1	4600
2	4232
3	$\approx 3893$
4	$\approx 3582$
5	$\approx 3295$

$\times .92$   
 $\times .92$   
 $\times .92$   
 $\times .92$   
 $\times .92$

$$y = ab^x$$

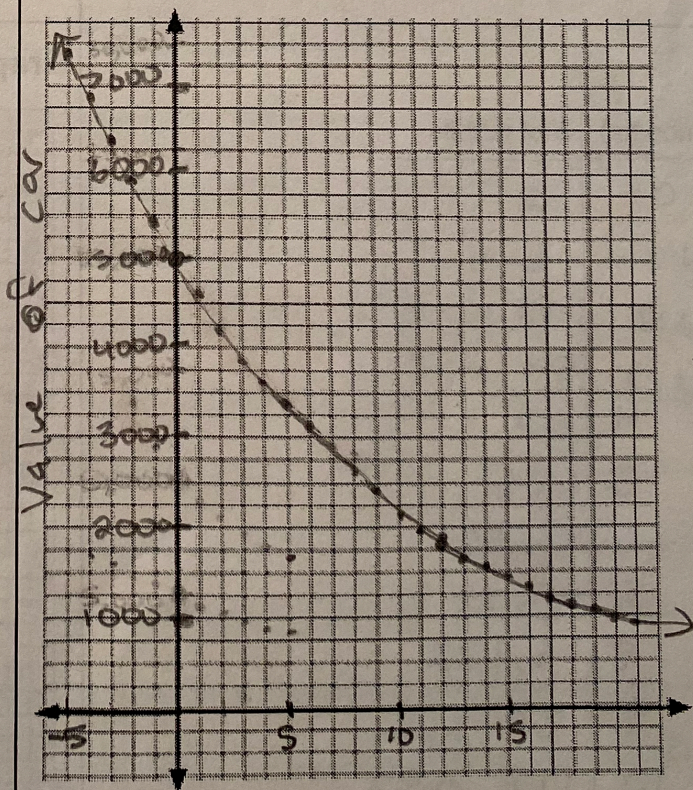
$$y = 5000b^x$$

$$4600 = 5000 \cdot b^1$$

$$\frac{4600}{5000} = \frac{5000b}{5000}$$

$$.92 = b$$

## Graph:



# of years after 2019