

Math 11: Unit 6.6 Reciprocal Equations

A. What is it?

-product of a number and its reciprocal = 1

Ex:

-similarly, functions can be reciprocals of each other also:

Ex: $y = x$ and $y = \frac{1}{x}$ are reciprocals

Ex: $y = f(x)$ and $y = \frac{1}{f(x)}$ are reciprocals

B. What does the reciprocal of a linear function look like?

Lets graph $Y = x$ vs $y = \frac{1}{x}$

-note: when $y =$

...as 'x' gets very _____, 'y' gets very _____ because as 'x' approaches infinity, 'y' gets closer to 'zero', but never quite reaches 'zero'... gives us horizontal asymptotes, or horizontal boundary lines

...as 'x' gets very _____, 'y' gets very _____, because as 'x' approaches 'zero', 'y' gets closer to infinity...gives us vertical asymptote, or vertical boundary line.

B) if _____ is our standard, can we get a 'general equation' to predict what similar reciprocal functions look like?

-before: $y = \pm a(x-p)^2 + q$ can we create something for reciprocal linear functions

Do:

$$\text{So: } y = \pm a \left(\frac{1}{x-p} \right) + q$$

-do handout

