

Lesson 1: Midpoint & Length of a Line Segment | Unit 2 – Co-ordinate Geometry

(A) Lesson Objectives:

- Exploring the midpoint and length of a line segment through dynamic geometry software (geogebra)
- Develop proficiency in analytic/algebraic determination of midpoints of line segments
- Apply the use of midpoints to problem solving questions

(B) Exploring Midpoint – through dynamic geometry software: geogebra

Open an internet browser → Using the following geometry applet (<http://www.geogebra.org/m/12412>), let's explore the midpoint

- Point A is fixed at (0,0) and move Point B → Record position of Point B and then also record the position of the midpoint → Q? how can you predict where the midpoint should be?

Point A	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)
Point B	(14,4)						
Midpoint							

Q? how can you predict where the midpoint should be?

- Now Point A will also move and you will also move Point B → Record position of Points A and B and then also record the position of the midpoint → Q? how can you predict where the midpoint should be?

Point A	(2,5)	(3,6)	(-5,-4)	(-2,-8)	(3,7)	(-2,9)	(0,-7)
Point B	(4,7)	(0,-2)	(7,-1)	(-8,6)	(-4,2)	(-6,2)	(5,0)
Midpoint							

Q? now, how can you predict where the midpoint should be?

- Now Point A will be fixed at (16,-8) and you will have to move Point B to get to the requested midpoint → Record the final position B → Q? how can you predict where Point B should be?

Point A	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)
Midpoint	(0,0)	(6,-1)	(9,-6)	(12,0)	(0,-3)	(4.5,-4)	(8.5,1.5)
Point B							

Q? how can you predict where Point B should be?

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(C) Exploring Length – through dynamic geometry software: geogebra

Open an internet browser → Using the following geometry applet (<http://www.geogebra.org/m/12412>), let's explore the length of a line segment

- a. Point A is fixed at (0,0) and move Point B (the first three B coordinates have been given to you. Record position of Point B and then also record the length of the segment → Q? how can you determine the length of segment?

Point A	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)	(0,0)
Point B	(8,6)	(-15,8)	(-12,-5)			
Length						

Q? how can you determine the length of segment?

- b. Now Point A will also move and you will also move Point B → Record position of Points A and B and then also record the length of the segment → Q? how can you determine the length of segment?

Point A	(2,5)	(3,6)	(-5,-4)	(-2,-8)	(3,7)	(0,-7)
Point B	(4,7)	(0,-2)	(7,-1)	(-8,6)	(-4,2)	(5,0)
Length						

Q? now, how can you determine the length of segment?

- (D) CHALLENGE #1: Now Point A will be fixed at (16,-8) and you will have to move Point B to get to the requested length → Record the final position B → Q? how can you predict where Point B should be?

Point A	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)	(16,-8)
Length	10	13	17	5	21.9	28.2	30
Point B							

- (E) CHALLENGE #2: A line segment has an endpoint at $A(5,2)$ and has a length of 13 units. Determine the coordinate(s) of the other endpoint. Show the algebraic reasoning/work that leads to your conclusion.

(F) Working with the Concepts

- a. Determine the midpoint of the line segment between $A(1,1)$ and $B(5,9)$
- b. Determine the midpoint of the line segment between $A(-1,1)$ and $B(5,5)$
- c. Determine the midpoint of the line segment between $A(-2,6)$ and $B(3,-4)$
- d. Determine the length of the line segment between $A(1,1)$ and $B(5,9)$
- e. Determine the length of the line segment between $A(-1,1)$ and $B(5,5)$
- f. Determine the length of the line segment between $A(-2,6)$ and $B(3,-4)$

- g. A line segment has an endpoint at $A(5,2)$ and midpoint at $M(9,-3)$. Determine the co-ordinates of the other endpoint. Show the algebraic reasoning/work that leads to your conclusion.

- h. On the design plan for a landscaping project, a straight path runs from $(11,29)$ to $(53,9)$. A light is going to be placed halfway along the path.
 - i. Draw a diagram that shows the path.
 - ii. Determine the co-ordinates of the lamp on your diagram
 - iii. The one lamp is not bright enough to illuminate the pathway. So two more lamps will be placed along the path, such that each lamp is placed a quarter of the distance of the path. Determine the coordinates of the other two lamps.

- i. A perpendicular bisector of a line segment is a second line that will (i) cut the line segment in half and (ii) be perpendicular to the original line segment (see diagram). A line segment ends at the points $C(-2,0)$ and $D(4,-4)$. Determine the equation for the perpendicular bisector of line segment CD.

- j. A helicopter is travelling from Town A to Town B. A grid is overlaid on the map of this region and Town A is at $(-70,770)$ and Town B is at $(220,490)$ & Town C is the origin.
 - i. Draw a diagram that shows the three towns.
 - ii. Approximately how far did the helicopter travel?
 - iii. What assumption did you make about the route of the helicopter?

- k. Triangles can be classified according to the lengths of their sides (scalene, isosceles, equilateral). A given triangle has vertices at $A(4,5)$, $B(1,2)$ & $C(6,1)$.
 - i. Determine the lengths of all three sides and then classify the triangle type.
 - ii. Construct the triangle on GEOGEBRA.
 - iii. Where would you move point C such that you now had an isosceles triangle?