

# THE PLANT PROBLEM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Intro to Multistep Equations in Context

Professor Botano is gathering data on the growth rate of a certain new hybrid seed. He spilled coffee on his clipboard and destroyed most of the data, but he DID remember that the seed had been growing at a constant rate throughout his observations. Help him reconstruct the data.



❶ Figure out the missing values for Professor Botano's table below:

# of days since seed was planted	0	2	3	4	6	8
Height of seedling (in inches)				7	12	



❷ What is the plant's daily growth rate? \_\_\_\_\_

❸ What is a possible explanation for the number in the height spot on day 0? \_\_\_\_\_

❹ Write a function for the height of the seedling in terms of days (use  $h$  for height and  $d$  for days): \_\_\_\_\_

❺ Determine and explain the **domain** and **range** of your function.

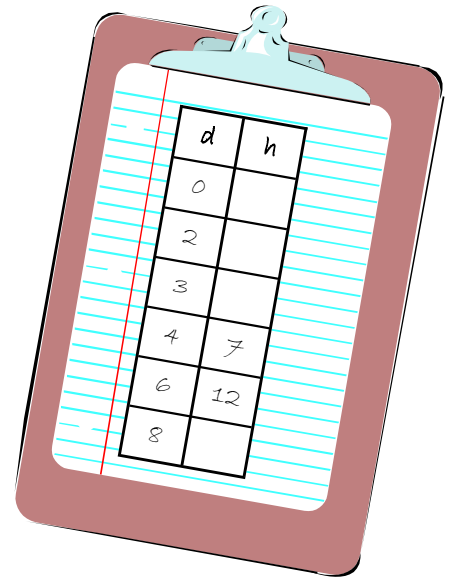
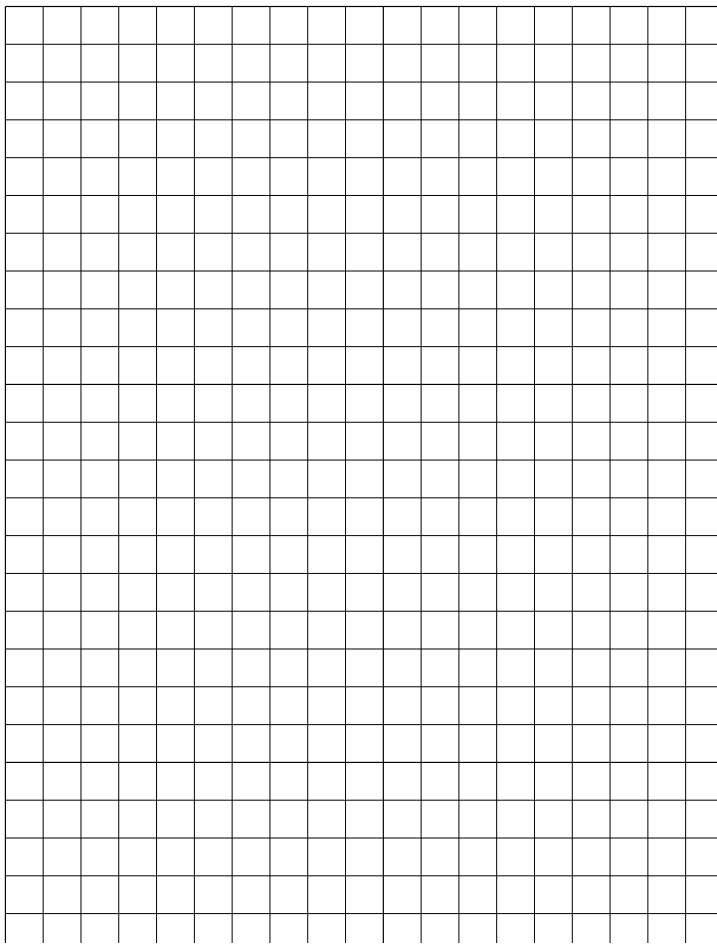
⑥ Think, show, and interpret!

How tall was the plant on **day 1**?

When will the plant be **20 inches** tall?

⑦ Use this grid to create your best possible line graph that shows the height of the plant in terms of days.

*Professor Botano's Hybrid Seed Study: an Analysis of Height over Time*



# THE PLANT PROBLEM

Name Teacher's Key

## Intro to Multistep Equations in Context

Professor Botano is gathering data on the growth rate of a certain new hybrid seed. He spilled coffee on his clipboard and destroyed most of the data, but he DID remember that the seed had been growing at a constant rate throughout his observations. Help him reconstruct the data.

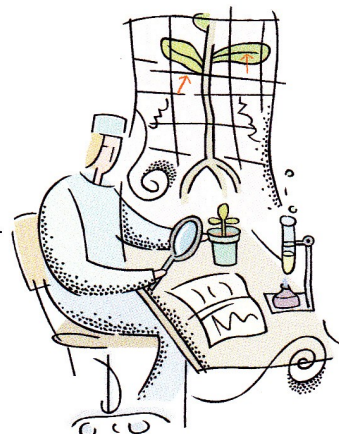
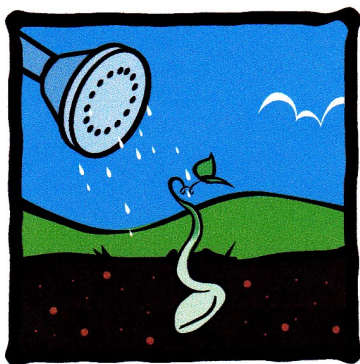


Figure out the missing values for Professor Botano's table below:

# of days since seed was planted	0	2	3	4	6	8
Height of seedling (in inches)	-3	2	4.5	7	12	17



What is the plant's daily growth rate? 5 inches every 2 days  
OR 2.5 inches/day

What is a possible explanation for the number in the height spot on day 0?

-3 probably means it is three inches below the surface

Write a function for the height of the seedling in terms of days (use  $h$  for height and  $d$  for days):  $h = 2.5d - 3$

Determine and explain the **domain** and **range** of your function.

domain:  $d \geq 0$ , but also a reasonable maximum should be considered... perhaps  $d \leq 10$ ?  
You probably shouldn't predict too far into the future when dealing with scientific experiments!

range: assuming  $0 \leq d < 10$ , then range would be  $-3 \leq h < 22$



Think, show, and interpret!

How tall was the plant on day 1?

$$d=1, \text{ so } h=2.5(1)-3$$
$$h=-0.5$$

The seedling was still  $\frac{1}{2}$ "  
under the surface on day 1!

When will the plant be 20 inches tall?

$$h=20, \text{ so } 20 = 2.5d - 3$$

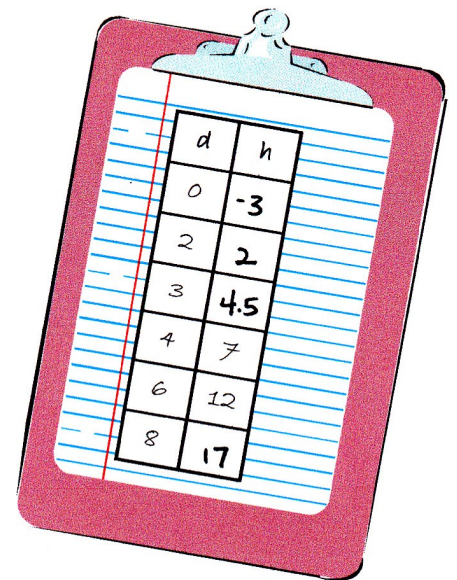
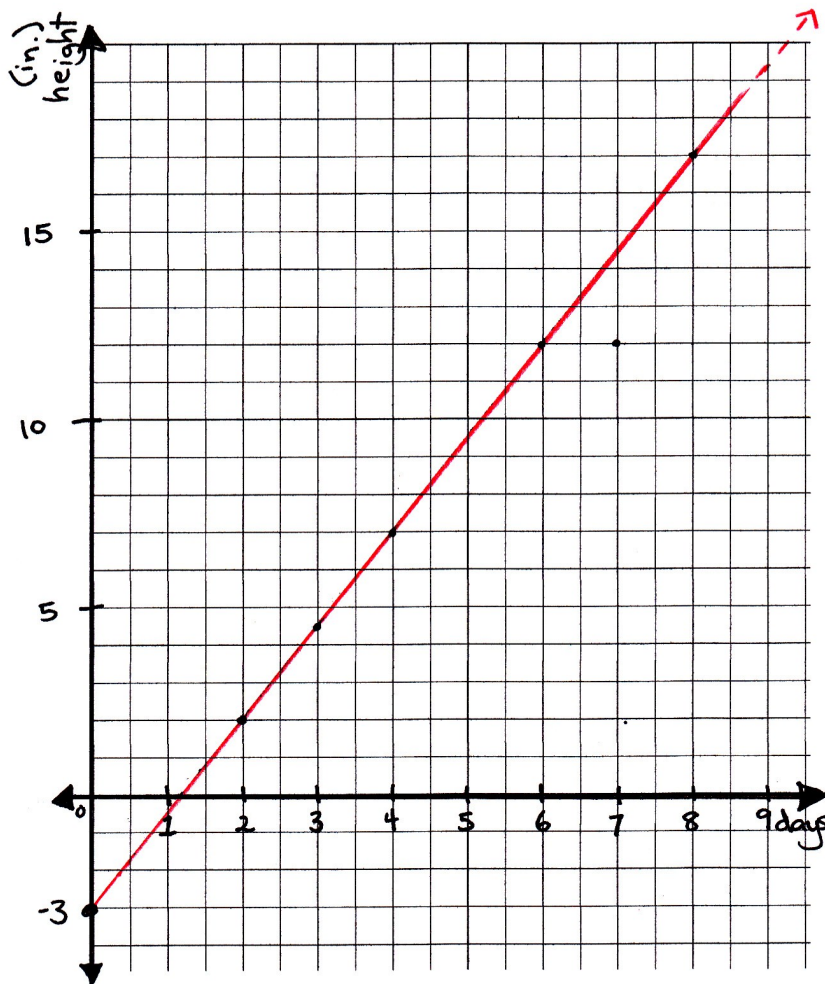
$$\frac{23}{2.5} = \frac{2.5d}{2.5}$$

$$d=9.2$$

9.2 days after planting would be  
4:48 AM on day # 9!

Use this grid to create your best possible line graph that shows the height of the plant in terms of days.

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careful placement  
of axes + scale ensure  
that the graph fills the grid

