

31. **BIKE COSTS** You buy a new mountain bike for \$200. The value of the bike decreases by 25% each year.

- a. Write a model giving the mountain bike's value  $y$  (in dollars) after  $t$  years. Use the model to estimate the value of the bike after 3 years.

b. Graph the model.  $y = 200(1 - .25)^t$   
 $= 200(.75)^t$

- c. Estimate when the value of the bike will be \$100.

$$y_1 = 200(.75)^t$$

$$y_2 = 100$$

put in calculator and find intersection.

3. A scientist observes 27 bacteria under a microscope. It is expected to grow at a rate of 22% an hour. How many bacteria would be expected after 8 hours?

$$y = 27(1 + .22)^8$$

$$= 27(1.22)^8$$

$$\approx 133 \text{ bacteria}$$

5. If a patient takes a 50 mg dose of medication and it leaves the bloodstream at a rate of 11% per hour, how much remains in the blood after 4.5 hours?

$$y = 50(1 - .11)^{4.5}$$

$$= 50(.89)^{4.5}$$

$$\approx 30 \text{ mg}$$

## 4.3 Use Functions Involving $e$

**Before** You studied exponential growth and decay functions.  
**Now** You will study functions involving the natural base  $e$ .  
**Why?** So you can model visibility underwater, as in Ex. 59.



**F.IF.7** Graph functions expressed symbolically and show key features of the graph, by hand in simple cases and using technology for more complicated cases.\*

- e. Graph exponential and logarithmic functions, showing intercepts and end behavior, and trigonometric functions, showing period, midline, and amplitude.

### Key Vocabulary

• natural base  $e$

The history of mathematics is marked by the discovery of special numbers such as  $\pi$  and  $i$ . Another special number is denoted by the letter  $e$ . The number is called the **natural base  $e$**  or the **Euler number** after its discoverer, Leonhard Euler

(1707–1783). The expression  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$  approaches  $e$  as  $n$  increases.

Use your roster number \* 100 for  $n$  in the above expression. Let's hear what you got.

## KEY CONCEPT

For Your Notebook

The Natural Base  $e$ 

The natural base  $e$  is irrational. It is defined as follows:

As  $n$  approaches  $+\infty$ ,  $\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$  approaches  $e \approx 2.718281828$ .

## GUIDED PRACTICE

for Examples 1 and 2

Simplify the expression.

1.  $e^7 \cdot e^4$

$$e^{7+4} = e^{11}$$

Exponent rules  
apply to common  
bases, including  $e$ .

2.  $2e^{-3} \cdot 6e^5$

$$= 2 \cdot 6 \cdot e^{-3} \cdot e^5$$

$$= 12e^2$$

## GUIDED PRACTICE

for Examples 1 and 2

Simplify the expression.

3.  $\frac{24e^8}{4e^5} = 6e^{8-5} = 6e^3$

4.  $(10e^{-4x})^3$   

$$= (10)^3 (e^{-4x})^3 = 1000e^{-12x} = \frac{1000}{e^{12x}}$$

5. Use a calculator to evaluate  $e^{3/4}$ .

$$e^{1(3/4)} = 2.12$$

$e$  is on  
the calc  
face twice.  
Use either  
one. Left  
side is easier  
though.

## KEY CONCEPT

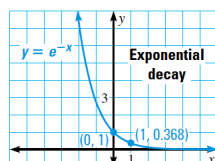
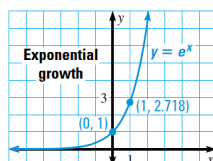
For Your Notebook

## Natural Base Functions

A function of the form  $y = ae^{rx}$  is called a *natural base exponential function*.

- If  $a > 0$  and  $r > 0$ , the function is an exponential growth function.
- If  $a > 0$  and  $r < 0$ , the function is an exponential decay function.

The graphs of the basic functions  $y = e^x$  and  $y = e^{-x}$  are shown below.



## GUIDED PRACTICE

for Examples 3 and 4

Graph the function. State the domain and range.

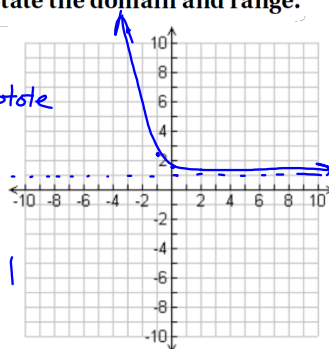
7.  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-x} + 1$

What is the growth factor?

$$(e^{-1}) = .368$$

$$\begin{array}{r|l} x & y \\ -3 & 11 \\ -1 & 2.3 \\ 0 & 1.5 \\ 2 & 1.06 \end{array}$$

D:  $\mathbb{R}$   
R:  $\mathbb{R} > 1$



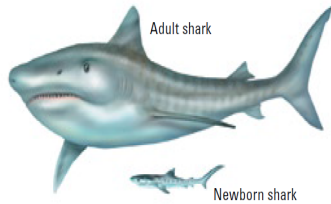
**EXAMPLE 4** Solve a multi-step problem

**BIOLOGY** The length  $l$  (in centimeters) of a tiger shark can be modeled by the function

$$l = 337 - 276e^{-0.178t}$$

where  $t$  is the shark's age (in years).

- Graph the model.
- Use the graph to estimate the length of a tiger shark that is 3 years old.



$$l = 337 - 276e^{-0.178(3)}$$

$$l \approx 175 \text{ cm}$$