MATHEMATICS · KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

Slides, flips, and turns

Difficulty level: Easy

Mathematics: Kindergarten to Grade 3

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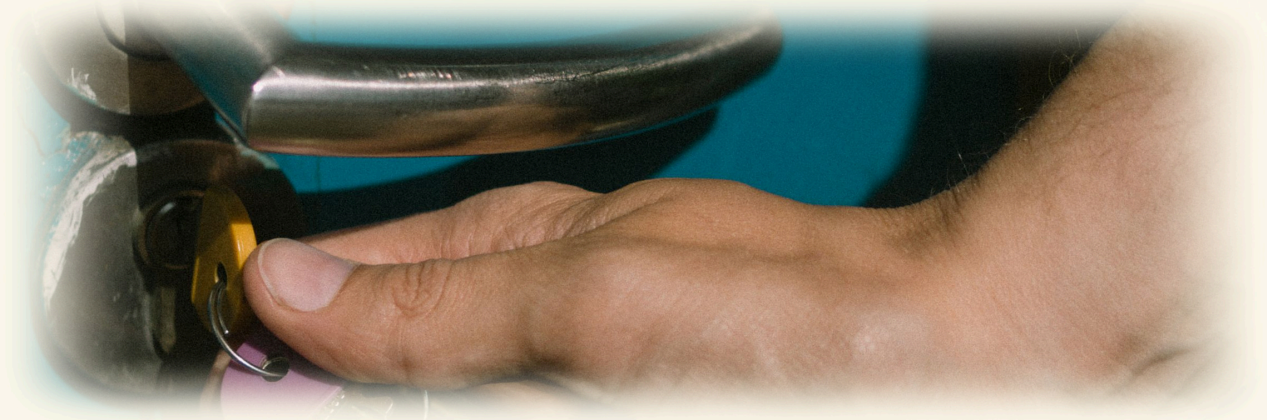
Overview of the concept

This is how you move a shape around, like sliding a tile across a floor, flipping a pattern, or turning a key, without changing its size or shape. A slide moves the shape to a new spot, a flip turns it over like a mirror image, and a turn spins it around a point. In each case the shape itself stays exactly the same, only its position or facing changes. That is how tilers lay a pattern, how designers repeat a logo, and how you recognise a shape no matter which way it is turned.



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Rule

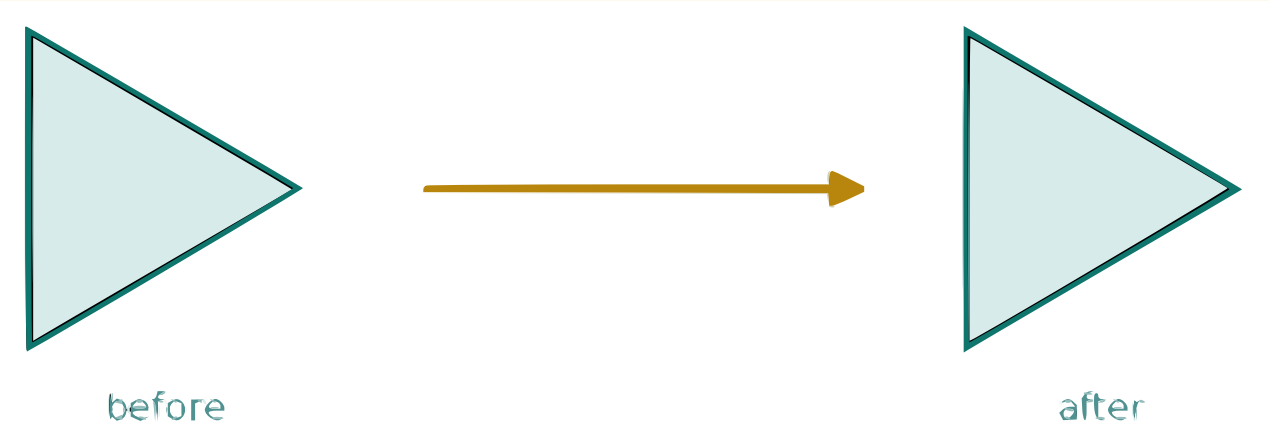
Slides, flips, and turns: a slide moves a shape to a new spot without turning it. A flip turns it over, like a mirror image. A turn spins it around a point.

In each case the shape stays exactly the same size and form, only its position or facing changes. Check whether the shape is moved, mirrored, or spun.

Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q **The picture shows a triangle slid to the right. What has happened to the triangle, and what has stayed the same?**



SOLUTION

This is a name-the-move question, so look at how the shape moved. The triangle has moved straight to the right without turning over and without spinning.

That is a slide, also called a translation. The triangle is in a different place, but it still faces the same way.

So the move is a slide, and what stayed the same is the size, the shape and the direction the triangle faces.

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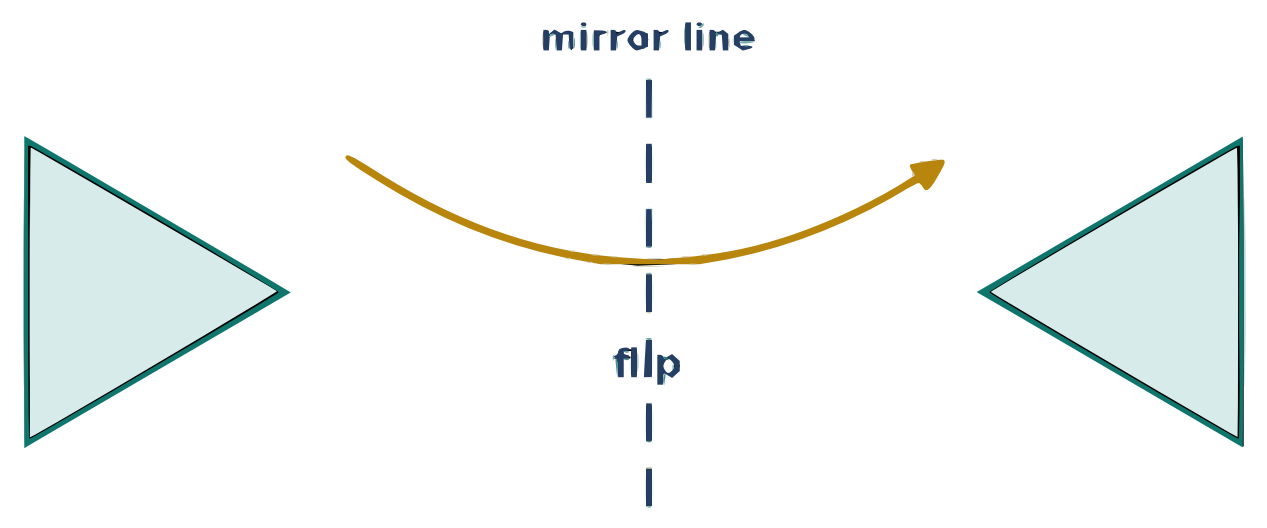
EXAMPLE 2

Q The picture shows a triangle flipped over. What has happened to the triangle, and what has stayed the same?



SOLUTION

This is a name-the-move question, so look at how the shape moved. The triangle has been turned over, so it now faces the other way, like a reflection in a mirror.

That is a flip, also called a reflection. The triangle is in a different place and faces the other way, but it is still the same triangle.

So the move is a flip, and what stayed the same is the size and the shape.

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Practice questions

1 A shape is moved straight to the right without turning it. What is this move called?

- A Flip
- B Turn
- C Slide
- D Enlarge

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2 A shape is turned over like a reflection in a mirror. What is this move called?

- A Slide
- B Flip
- C Turn
- D Shrink

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3

A shape is spun around a point. What is this move called?

A Slide

B Flip

C Enlarge

D Turn

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4

Which move makes a shape face the other way: a slide or a flip?

A Slide

B Flip

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5 **Does a turn change the size of a shape?**

A Yes

B No

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6 **A shape is rotated a half turn. It now faces the opposite way. What has it been?**

A Slid

B Flipped

C Turned

D Enlarged

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7 A triangle is slid 5 squares to the right. Do its sides change length?

- A Yes
- B No

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8 A shape is flipped over a vertical line. It was facing right. Which way does it face now?

- A Left
- B Right
- C Up
- D Down

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9 How many quarter turns make one full turn?

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10 A square is turned about its centre. How many times does it look exactly the same in one full turn?

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ANSWER KEY

1. Slide

2. Flip

3. Turn

4. Flip

5. No

6. Turned

7. No

8. Left

9. 4

10. 4

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