

Adding the Angles in a Triangle

Let's explore angles in triangles.

15.1 Can You Draw It?

Draw 3 different types of triangles.

15.2 Find All Three

Your teacher will give you a card with a picture of a triangle.

1. The measurement of one of the angles is labeled. Mentally estimate the measures of the other two angles.
2. Find two other students with triangles congruent to yours but with a different angle labeled. Confirm that the triangles are congruent, that each card has a different angle labeled, and that the angle measures make sense.
3. Enter the three angle measures for your triangle on the table your teacher has posted.



Your teacher will give you a page with three sets of angles and a blank space. Cut out each set of three angles. Can you make a triangle from each set that has these same three angles?

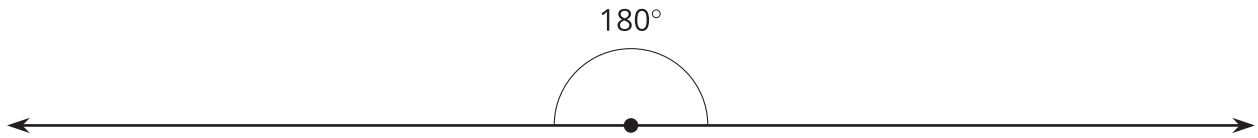


Are you ready for more?

1. Draw a quadrilateral. Cut it out, tear off its angles, and line them up. What do you notice?
2. Repeat this for several more quadrilaterals. Do you have a conjecture about the angles?

Lesson 15 Summary

A 180° angle is called a straight angle because when it is made with two rays, they point in opposite directions and form a straight line.



If we experiment with angles in a triangle, we find that the sum of the measures of the three angles in each triangle is 180° — the same as a straight angle!

Through experimentation we find:

- If we add the three angles of a triangle physically by cutting them off and lining up the vertices and sides, then the three angles form a straight angle.
- If we have a line and two rays that form three angles added to make a straight angle, then there is a triangle with these three angles.

