

Chapter 2 Scientific Notation

Dear Family,

In this chapter, your student will learn about scientific notation. Some of the skills your student will practice are:

- writing numbers in scientific notation and converting numbers between scientific notation and standard form
- adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing numbers written in scientific notation
- solving real-world problems using numbers in scientific notation

Activity

Numbers written in scientific notation are used in math, science, and social science classes. You can help your student work with numbers in scientific notation with this activity.

- Look in newspapers, magazines, or online articles to find a very large or very small number in standard form. For example, you could find that an estimate for the world population in 1950 was 2,556,000,000.
- If the number is in standard form, write it in scientific notation:
 $2,556,000,000 = 2.556 \times 10^9$.
- If possible, find a related number and complete an operation with two numbers. For example, you could find an estimate for the current world population and find the difference between the world population in 1950 and now.

Discuss with your student whether it is easier to operate with numbers in scientific notation or in standard form.

Vocabulary to Practice

Scientific notation is a convenient way to write very large and very small numbers.

A number written in scientific notation has the form $A \times 10^n$. The **coefficient**, A , is a number between 1 and 10, and the power of 10, n , is an integer.

To convert a number written in scientific notation to **standard form**, multiply the coefficient by the power of 10.



Online Resources

For additional Parent Resources my.hrw.com