



Absolute Value

Student Activity

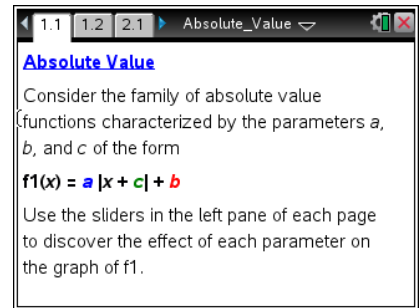


Name _____

Class _____

Open the TI-Nspire document *Absolute_Value.tns*.

The purpose of this activity is to examine the family of absolute value functions of the form $f(x) = a|x + c| + b$, where a , b , and c are parameters. Use sliders in the left panel of each page to change the value of a parameter, and record the effect of each parameter on the graph of $y = f(x)$. At the end of this activity, use your results to match each function with its corresponding graph.



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1. The graph of $y = f1(x) = a \cdot |x|$ is shown in the right panel. Describe the graph of $y = |x|$. Grab and move the slider in the left panel, and observe the changes in the graph of $f1$. Describe the effect of the parameter a on the graph of $y = a \cdot |x|$.

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2. The graph of $y = f1(x) = a|x| + b$ is shown in the right panel. Grab and move the slider for a to confirm your results in question 1. Grab and move the slider for b , and observe the changes in the graph of $f1$. Describe the effect of the parameter b on the graph of $y = a|x| + b$.

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3. The graph of $y = f1(x) = a|x + c| + b$ is shown in the right panel. Grab and move the slider for a to confirm your results in question 1. Grab and move the slider for b to confirm your results in question 2. Grab and move the slider for c , and observe the changes in the graph of $f1$. Describe the effect of the parameter c on the graph of $y = a|x + c| + b$.



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4. Match each equation with its corresponding graph.

(a) $f(x) = -|x + 2| + 3$

(b) $f(x) = |x - 5| - 4$

(c) $f(x) = 0.5|x - 4|$

(d) $f(x) = -2|x| + 5$

(e) $f(x) = -2|x - 3| - 1$

(f) $f(x) = -0.25|x + 4|$

