The Slope-Intercept Form of a Line Activity

Introduction

In this module, you will explore the slope-intercept form of a linear equation. You will see how changes in the slope and *y*-intercept of a line affect its graph. You will also learn how to graph equations in slope-intercept form on your own.

The Slope-Intercept Form of a Line ($y = mx + b$)

The Slope or Steepness

The general slope-intercept form of a line is given by the equation $y = mx + b$. In this equation, *m* represents the slope or steepness of the line.

1. Vary the slope of the line in the Gizmo using the *m* slider.

    a. What do lines with a positive slope look like? (Do they go upward or downward from left to right?) The line goes upward

    b. What do lines with a negative slope look like?

       It goes downward.