

Unit 1
Activity 1

Exponential Decay
Exponential Decay

$$y = a \cdot b^x$$

A patient takes 100 milligrams of medicine. Each hour the concentration of the medicine is 75% of the amount present the hour before.

Hour	Milligrams	Process
0	100	
1		$100(1 - 0.25)^1$
2		$100(1 - 0.25)^2$
3		
4		
5		
6		

- Use recursion to complete the table.
- When will the amount reach 50 mg.?
- Find a recursive or explicit equation to model the decay.
- Use your equation to find the amount left after 10 hours.

A wildlife scientist uses a model to find the projected bison population in a national park. Her data is shown in the table below.

Find the population if it is decreasing by 5% a year.

Year	Population	Process
2010	600	
2011		
2012		
2013		
2014		
2015		
2016		
2017		

4. Is the model linear or exponential?

5. Determine the rate of change.

6. Find a recursive or explicit equation to model the situation.

Patient Medication

(add Labels on Axes)

Bison Population



