Script

Course: Geometry
Unit: Lines and the Coordinate Plane
Section: Slope of a Line

Example: Slope of a Line on a Graph

Problem:

Find the slope of the line 5 x minus 9 y equals negative 6, shown below.

Solution:

Notice that (6, 4) and (negative 3, negative 1) are two points on the line.

The first step in finding the slope is to determine the change in y. To find the change in y, find y sub two minus y sub one, which is the vertical distance between the points. Four minus negative one equals five. We call this the *rise*.

We can verify this by counting on the graph.

The next step in finding the slope is to determine the change in x. To find the change in y, find x sub two minus x sub one, which is the horizontal distance between the points. Six minus negative three equals nine. We call this the *run*.

We can verify this by counting on the graph.

Recall that the slope is 'rise' over 'run'. Using the values we just found, the slope equals five-ninths.