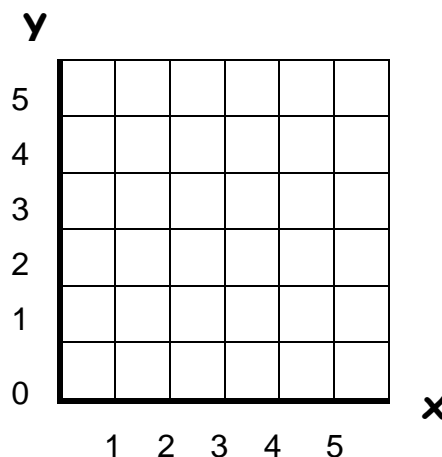Name_____   Date_____

Grids and Coordinates

Reading and Discussion

Take a look at the diagram. This is called a **grid**. or a **coordinate plane**. The dark lines are the number lines. They are called the **axes**.

- The horizontal number line is called the **x-axis**.
- The vertical number line is called the **y-axis**.
- The point where they join is called the **origin**.

The **axes** (plural) are numbered, starting from 0 at the origin.
If you are given one number from each axis, it is easy to find, or **plot**, the point on the grid. We call these numbers **coordinates.**
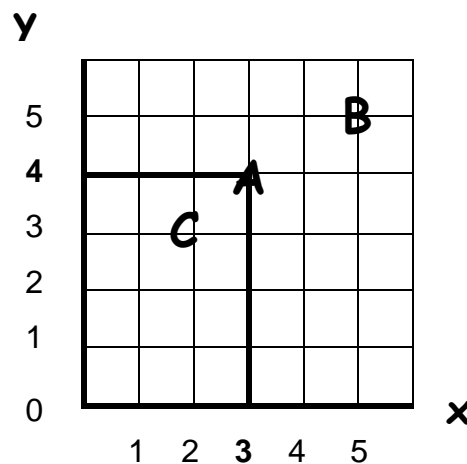
The **two** numbers needed to plot the point on the grid are called an **ordered pair.**

Here is an example of an ordered pair: (3,4).

The first number gives the position on the x axis and the second number gives the position on the y axis. So here is where we'll find (3,4) on the grid. Let's call it point A.

Can you see point B on the grid? What would the ordered pair be for point B? Yes, (5,5).

What about point C? Remember that you always put the coordinate on the X axis first. That's right! It's (2,3)
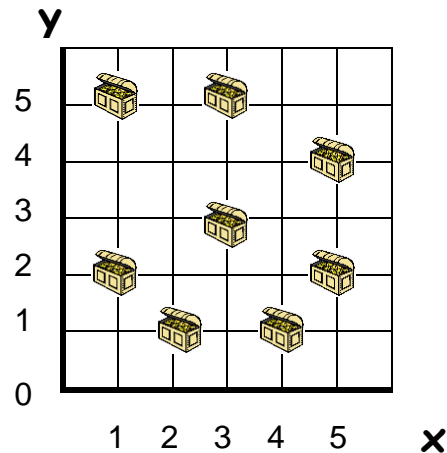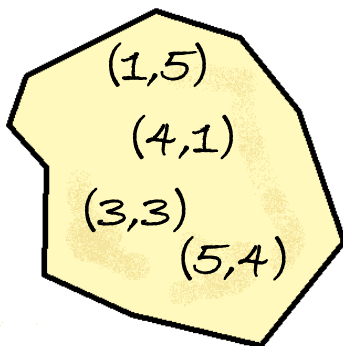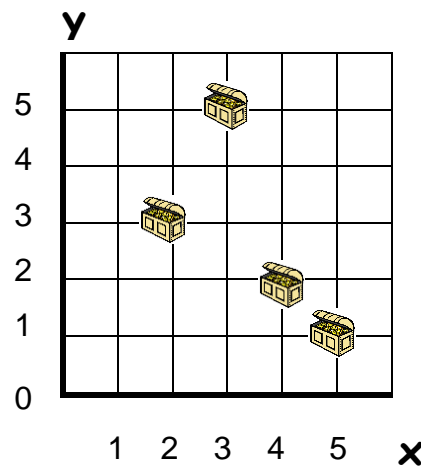
Activities

A. Find the hidden treasure

There are eight treasure chests hidden in a field. Only four of them really contain treasure. Luckily you have found a scrap of paper containing the coordinates of the real treasure chests. Can you find them on the grid and put a circle around each one?

(1,5)

(4,1)

(3,3)

(5,4)

B. Give the co-ordinates.

You have found the four treasure chests and buried them again where they will be safe. Write down the coordinates for the four chests so that you will know where to find them again.
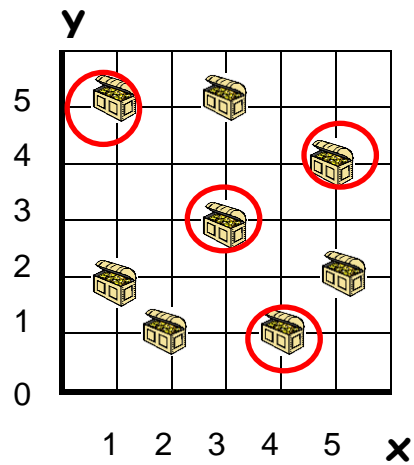
Answer Key

Activity A

Activity B

(2,3)
(3,5)
(4,2)
(5,1)