

Interpreting Graphs

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Summary	Students will be given two linear distance-time graphs and asked to tell a story about each graph and to compare them. They will later explore comparisons between points in each line.
Goals	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Increase facility with Cartesian plane.2. Work on graph-table-narrative interconnections.3. Begin to introduce rational numbers and the idea that a line contains an infinite number of points.
Materials	Overheads, Handouts
Keywords	Compare/Contrast Functions Full Class Discussion Interpretation of Graphs Production of Stories Small Group Work

Activity Plan:

1. Reading Graphs [Whole Class]

Show the overhead on Page 1. Ask children to discuss what they see in the graph (Maria's). Ask for individual children to tell a story about the graph.

Show the overhead on Page 2. Ask children to discuss what they see in the second graph (Jimmy's). Ask for individual children to tell a story about the two graphs and to compare points in time or distance between the two graphs.

2. Reading Graphs [Group Work]

Distribute the handout on Page 2 and ask students to work in pairs to write a story that is different from any of the ones discussed earlier about each graph and about the comparison between the two.

3. Discussing Students' Stories and Focusing on Comparisons [Whole Class]

Discuss the students' work and explore comparisons between the two lines at the same time and, later, at the same distance.

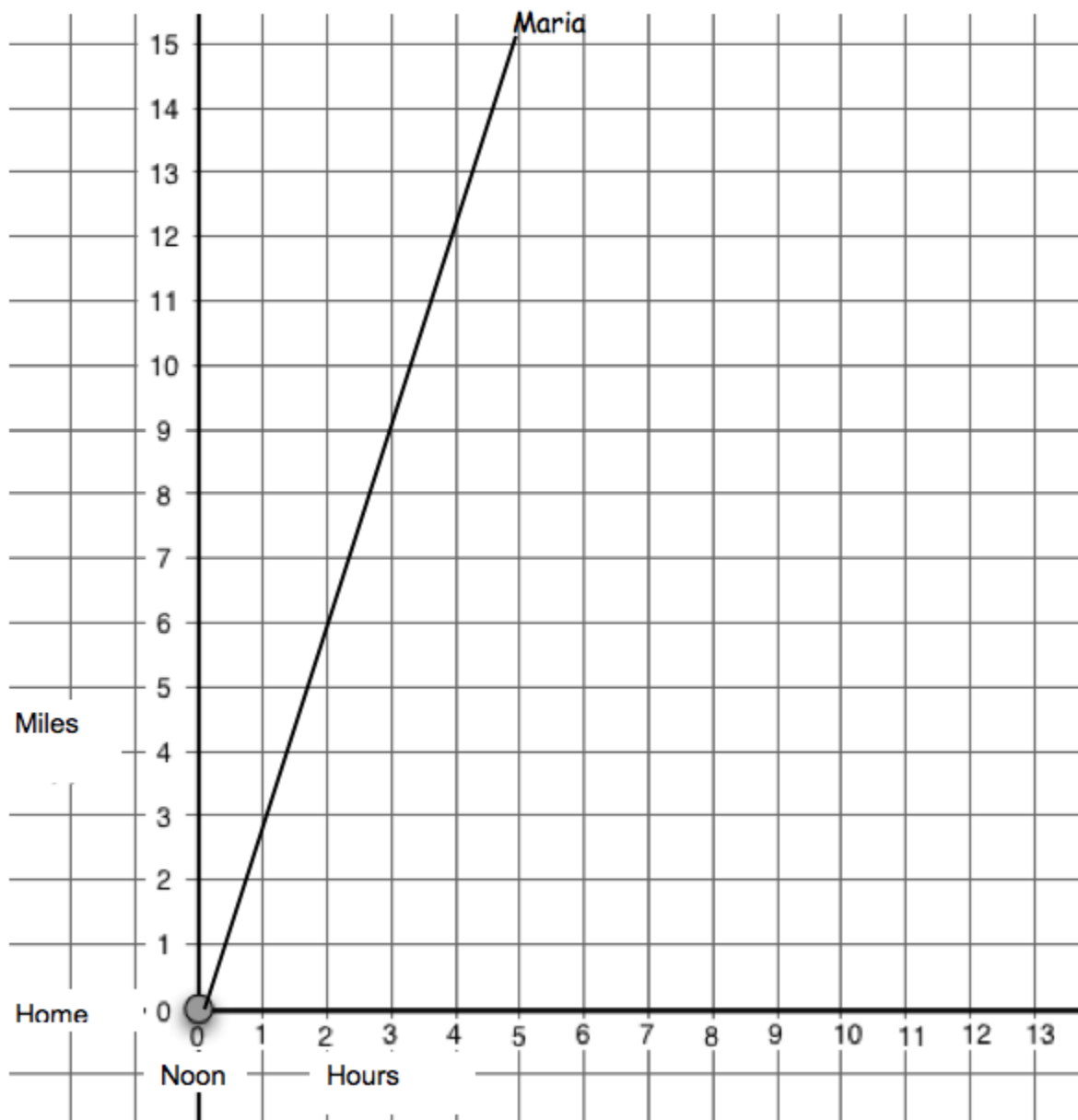
4. Homework (Page 3)

For homework the children will write stories for two other graphs.

Overhead: Discussing a Graph

(Page 1)

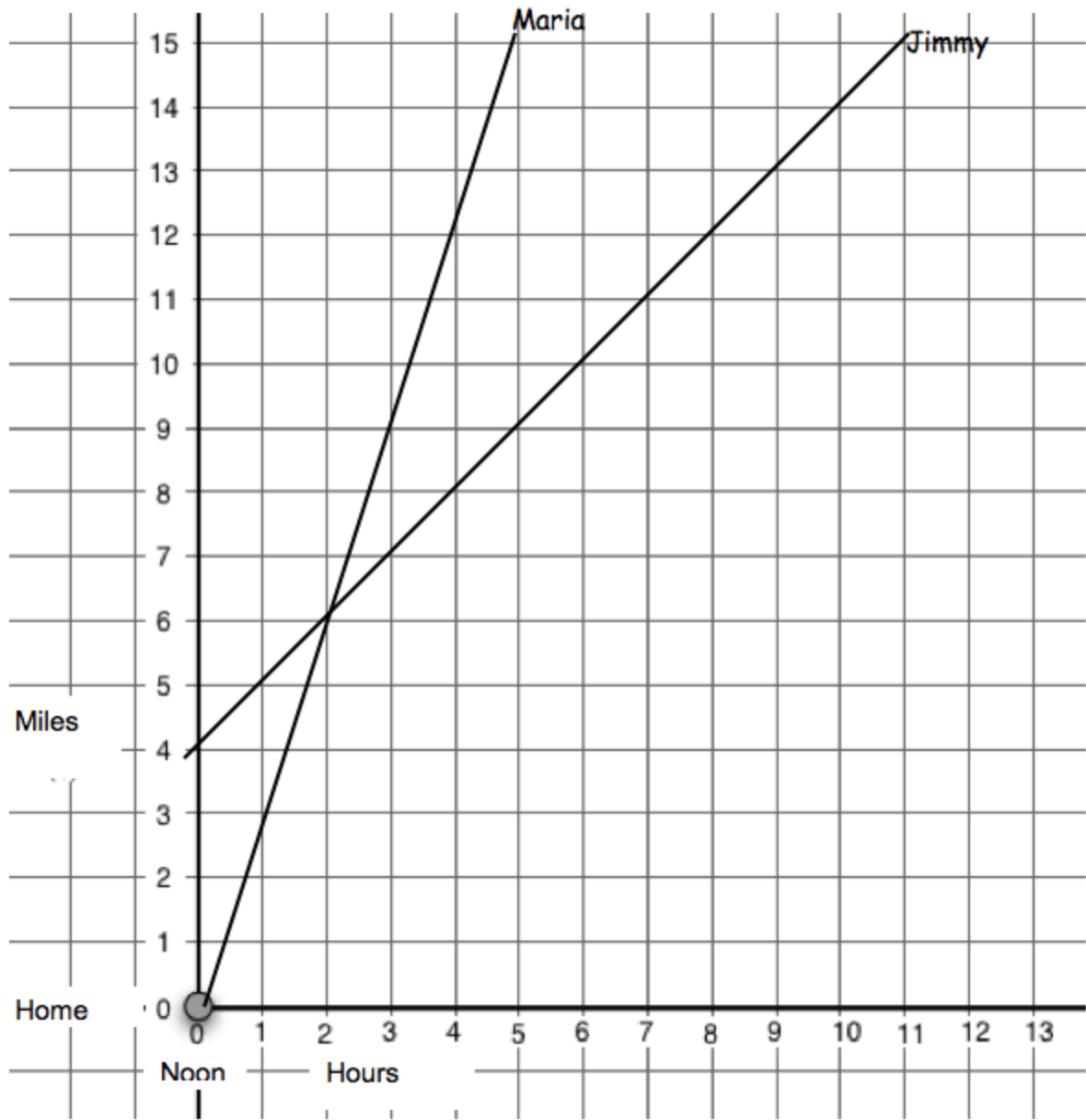
Come up with a story about what you see in the graph.



Overhead and Handout: Constructing Margaret's Trip (Page 2)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Write a story about what you see in the graphs.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Write a story about what you see in the graphs.

