

### Summarize the Mathematics

In the problems of this investigation, you studied ways of finding function models for growth patterns that could only be approximated by one of the familiar types of functions.

13. How do you decide whether a data pattern is modeled best by a linear or exponential function?
14. What do the numbers  $a$  and  $b$  in a linear function  $y = a + bx$  tell about patterns in the graph of the function?
15. What do the numbers  $a$  and  $b$  in a linear function  $y = a + bx$  tell about patterns in a table of  $(x, y)$  values for the function?
16. What do the numbers  $a$  and  $b$  in an exponential function  $y = a(b^x)$  tell about patterns in the graph of the function?
17. What do the numbers  $a$  and  $b$  in an exponential function  $y = a(b^x)$  tell about patterns in a table of  $(x, y)$  values for the function?
18. What strategies are available for finding a linear or exponential function that models a linear or exponential data pattern?