

Unit #3: Differential Equations

Topic: Slope Fields

Objective: SWBAT graph a general solution to a differential equation by using a slope field.
 SWBAT match a slope field to the correct differential equation.

Warm Up #3:

Find the particular solution to the equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2$ whose graph passes through the point $(0, -1)$.

Definition:

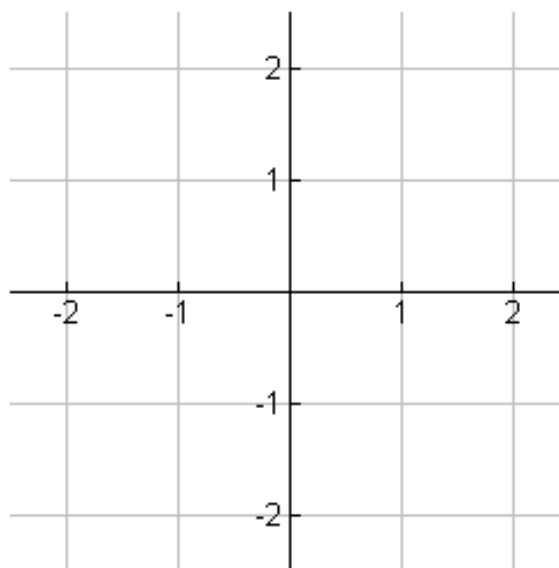
A **Slope Field** is a graphical general solution to a differential equation.

Example #1:

a) Draw a slope field for the differential equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 \text{ at the indicated points.}$$

b) Draw a particular solution at $(0, -1)$.



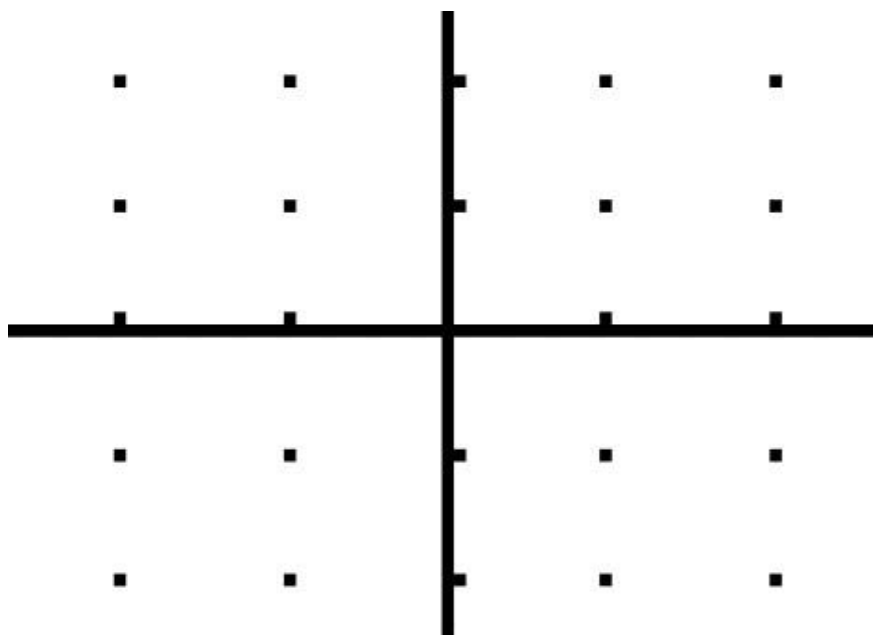
Many times, differential equations are **NOT** explicit functions of a single variable, and sometimes they are not even solvable by analytic methods. That's where slope fields come in. 😊

When drawing slope fields:

- 1) Draw the piece of the tangent line at a point long enough to see, but not so long that it interferes with the other tangent lines.
- 2) Be sure your slopes of 0, 1, -1, and ∞ are spot on. All other slopes must be at a steepness relative to these slopes and the others around it.

Example #2: Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y-1}{x^2}$.

- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.

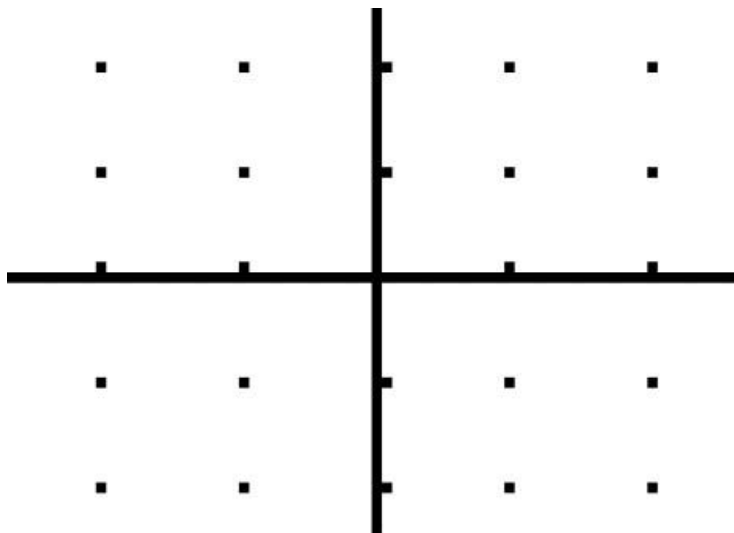


- b) Sketch the solution curve that passes through the point (2,0).

Problem Set #3:

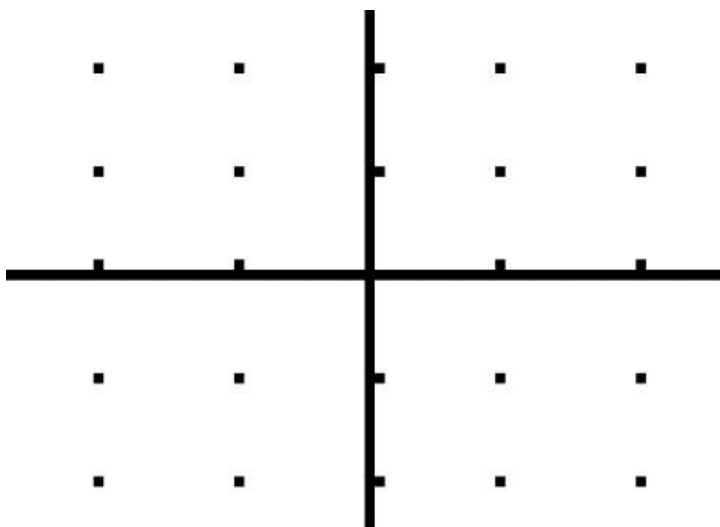
1) Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^4(y - 2)$.

- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



- b) While only part of the slope field in part (a) is drawn, it is defined at every point in the xy -plane. Describe all points in the xy -plane for which the slopes are negative.

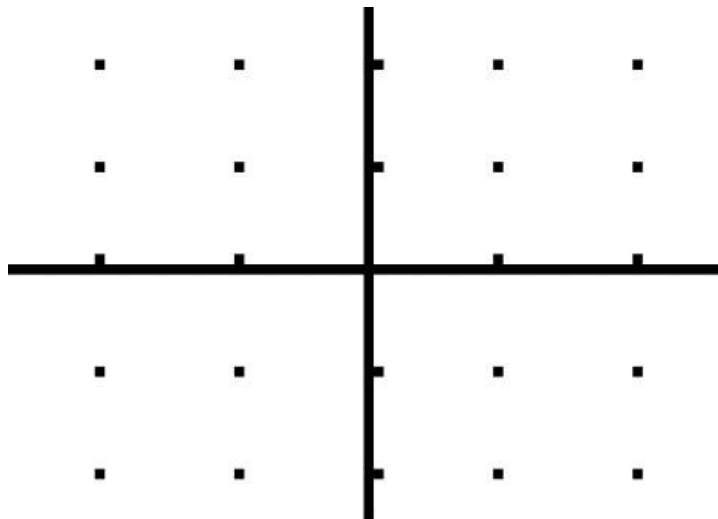
2) a) Draw the slope field for the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2y$.



- b) Sketch the solution curve that passes through the point $(0, -2)$.

3) Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2x}{y}$.

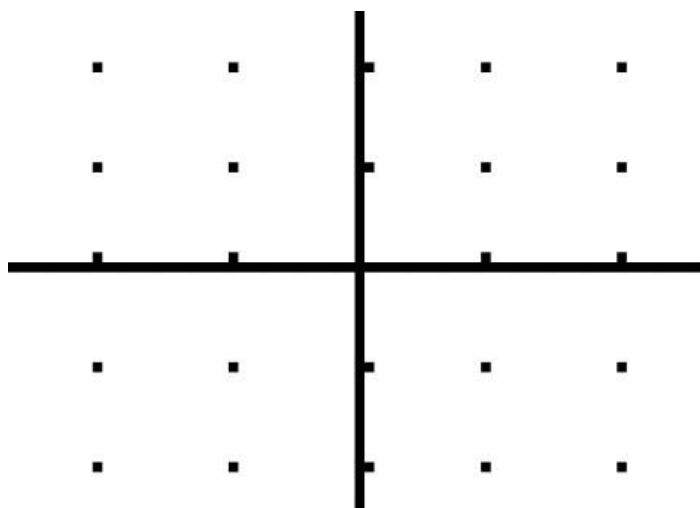
- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



- b) Sketch the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the differential equation with the initial condition $f(1) = -1$.

4) Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{y}$.

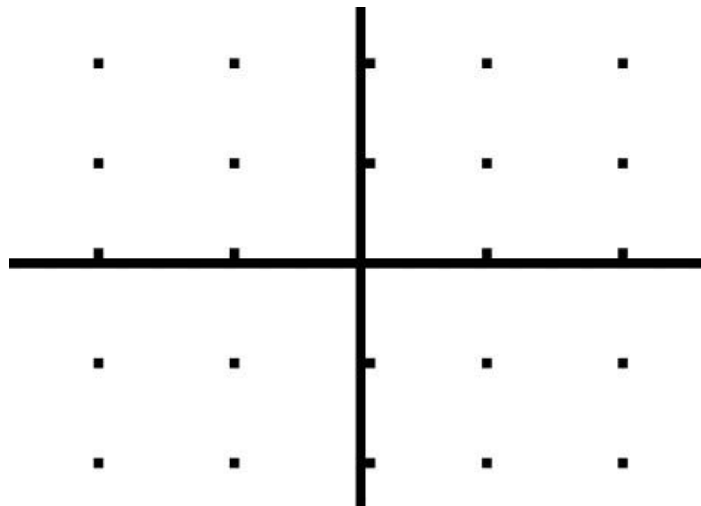
- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



- b) Sketch the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the differential equation with the initial condition $f(1) = -2$.

5) Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$.

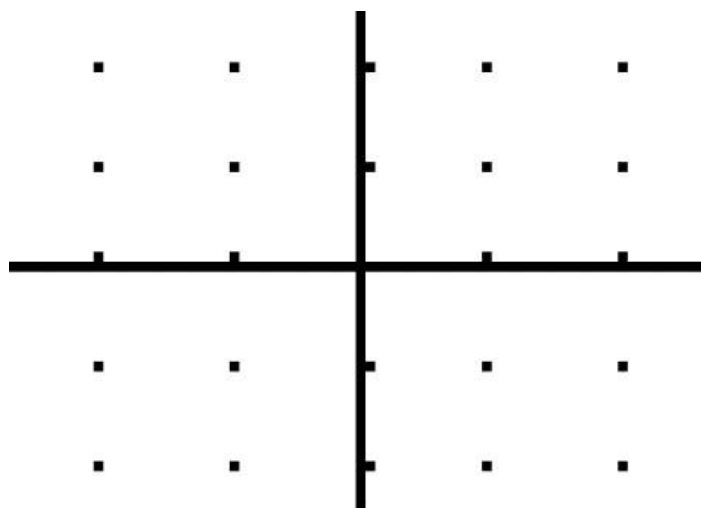
- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



- b) Sketch the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the differential equation with the initial condition $f(1) = 1$?

6) Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = y - 1$.

- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.

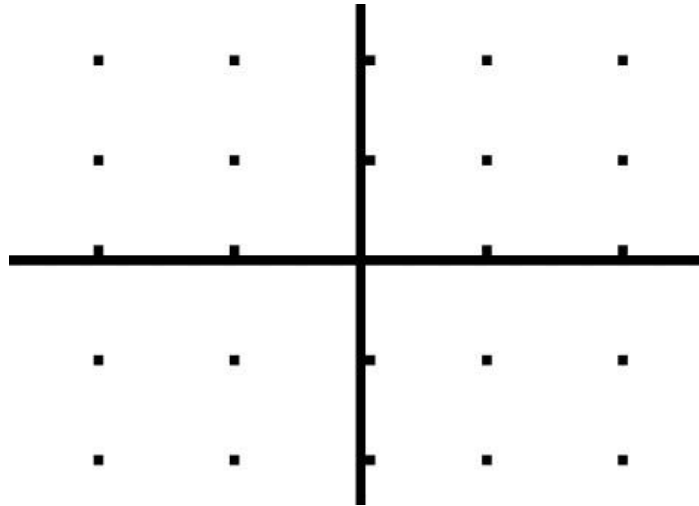


- b) Sketch the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the differential equation with the initial condition $f(2) = 0$?

Warm Up #4:

Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{xy}{2}$.

- a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



- b) Let f be the function that satisfies the given differential equation. Write an equation for the tangent line to the curve $y = f(x)$ through the point $(1,1)$ and then use the equation to estimate the value of $f(1.2)$.
- c) Find the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the differential equation with the initial condition $f(1) = 1$ and then use your solution to find $f(1.2)$.
- d) Was your estimate from part (b) an underestimate or an overestimate? Use your slope field to explain why.

Example #3: Which of the following differential equations matches the slope field given?

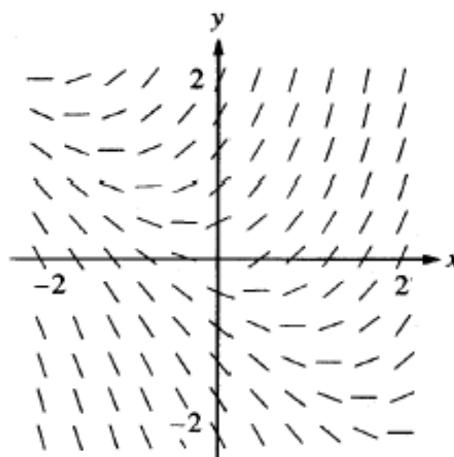
A) $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + x$

B) $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2$

C) $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$

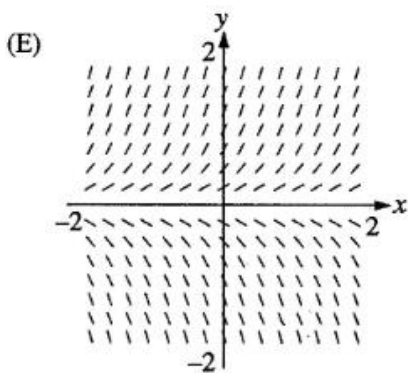
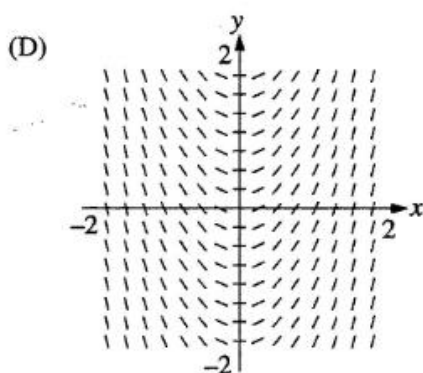
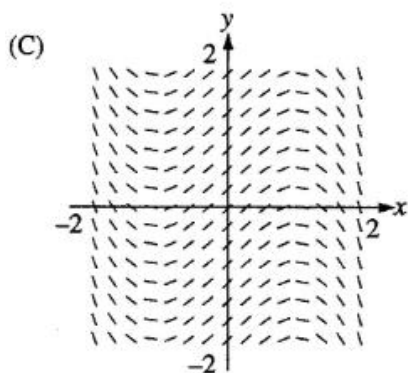
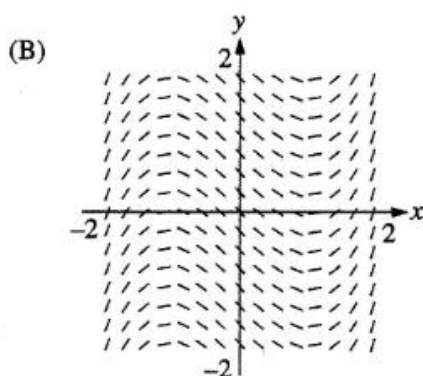
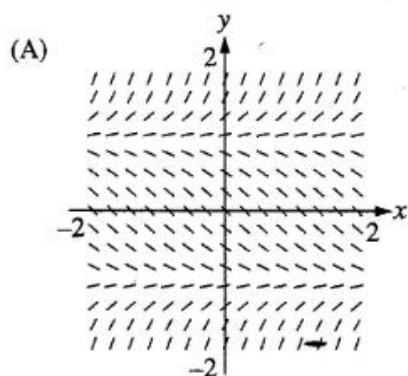
D) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \ln y$

E) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}$



Example #4:

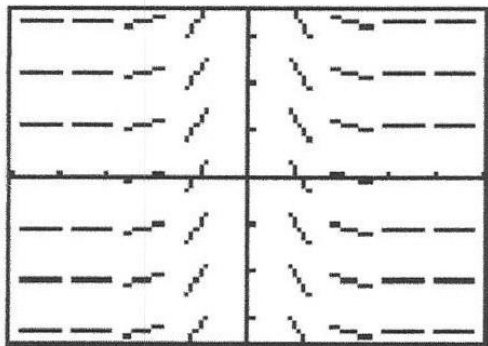
Which of the following could be the slope field for the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - 1$?



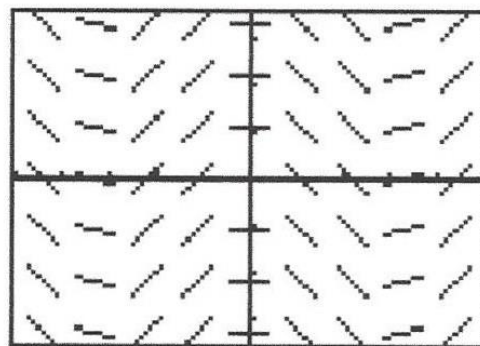
Problem Set #4:

For 7 – 12, match each slope field with the equation that the slope field could represent.

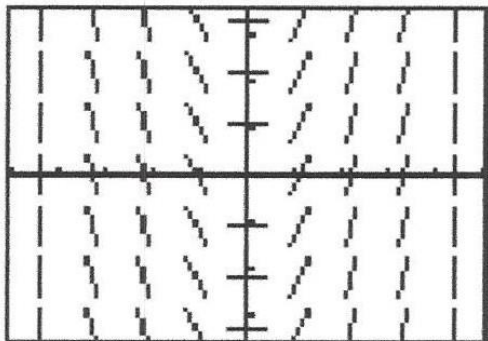
7.



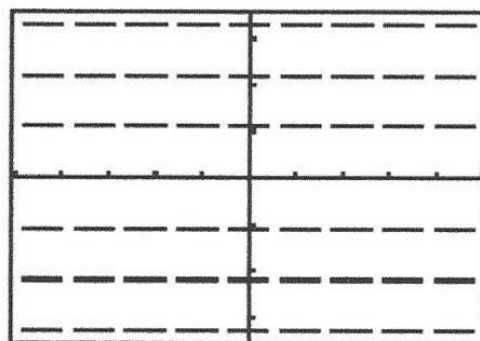
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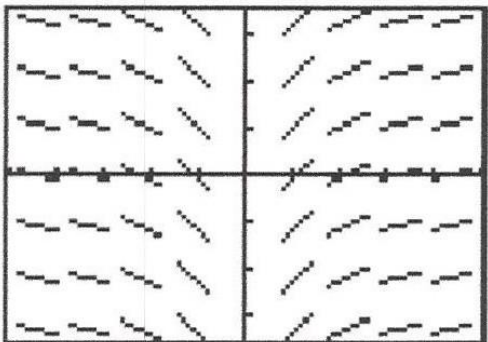
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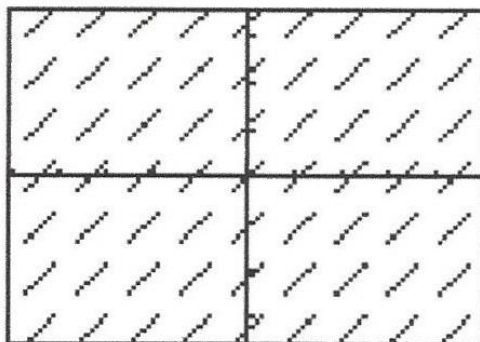
10.



11.



12.



(A) $y = 1$

(B) $y = x$

(C) $y = x^2$

(D) $y = \frac{1}{6}x^3$

(E) $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$

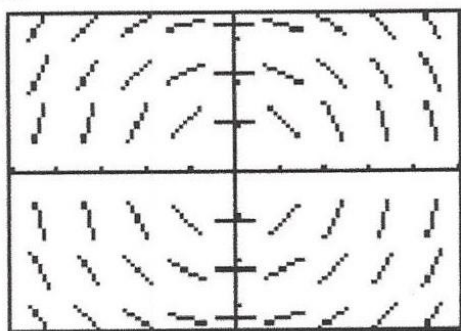
(F) $y = \sin x$

(G) $y = \cos x$

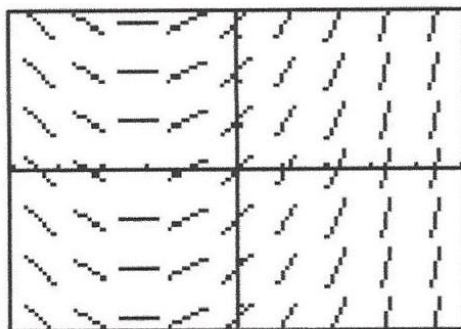
(H) $y = \ln|x|$

For 13 – 16, match the slope fields with their differential equations.

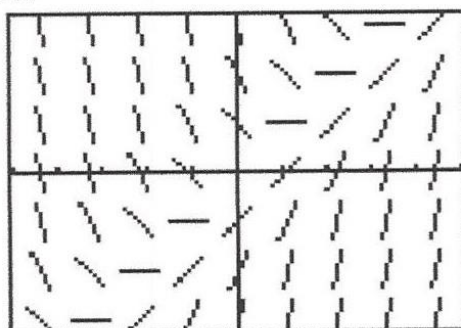
13.



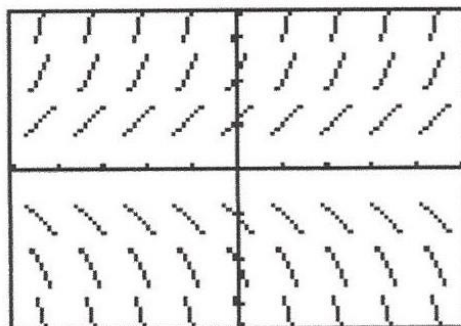
14.



15.



16.



(A) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2}x + 1$

(B) $\frac{dy}{dx} = x - y$

(C) $\frac{dy}{dx} = y$

(D) $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$