

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Learning Goal 3.6	Linear Approximations.
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**Linear Approximation**

- used to approximate the value of a function at some  $x$  value by using the tangent as an approximation of the function

- ↳ relatively accurate
- ↳ easier to calculate

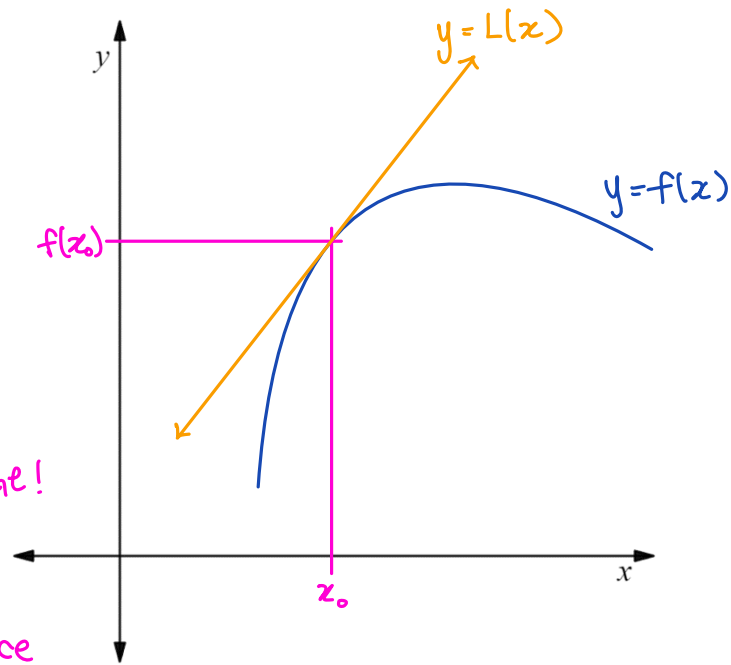
(we've done this quite a bit!)

$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$  SLOPE-PT FORM

$y - f(x_0) = f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$  ↓ REARRANGE!

$y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$

↑  
FUNCTION @ NICE PT.  
↑  
SLOPE @ NICE PT.  
↑  
distance btwn nice & not so nice pt.



ONCE WE HAVE THE LINEAR APPROXIMATION, WE CAN USE IT TO FIND VALUES CLOSE TO  $x_0$

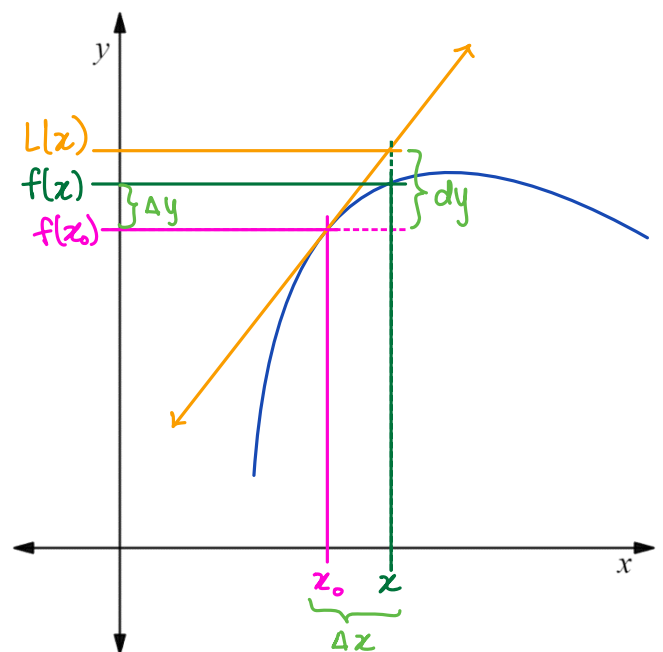
ANOTHER NOTATIONAL IDEA

$dx \times \frac{dy}{dz} = f'(z) \times dz$  (KIND OF...)

$dy = f'(z) dz$

$\Delta y \approx f'(x) dz$

AND IF  $\Delta y \approx dy$



**Example** Find the linearization of  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$  at  $x_0 = 4$  and use it to approximate the value of  $\sqrt{3.8}$  without a calculator.

*Nice* *NOT NICE*

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x} \quad f(x_0) = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \quad f'(x_0) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{4}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$f(3.8) \approx f(4) + f'(4)(3.8 - 4)$$

$$\approx 2 + \frac{1}{4}(-0.2)$$

$$\approx 2 + \frac{1}{4}\left(-\frac{1}{5}\right)$$

$$\approx 2 - \frac{1}{20}$$

$$\approx 1.95$$

*DUMB calc ... OR NOT*

**Example** Approximate the value of  $\cos 32^\circ$ . *Nice trig VALUE CLOSE TO 32°?*

$$f(x) = \cos x \quad f(30^\circ) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$f'(x) = -\sin x \quad f'(30^\circ) = -\frac{1}{2}$$

*x<sub>0</sub> = 30°*

$$\cos(32^\circ) \approx \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(32 - 30)$$

$$\approx \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(2)$$

$$\approx \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} - 1 \left(\frac{\pi}{180^\circ}\right)$$

$$\approx 0.85$$

*DUMB calc*

**Example** Find the linearization of the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x+3}$  at  $x_0 = 1$ . Determine the values for  $x$  for which the linear approximation is accurate to within 0.1.

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x+3} \quad f(1) = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x+3}} \quad f'(1) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{4}} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$L(x) = 2 + \frac{1}{4}(x-1)$$

*WE'RE FINDING THE APPROX. VALUES*

$$\left( \sqrt{x+3} - 0.1 < 2 + \frac{1}{4}(x-1) < \sqrt{x+3} + 0.1 \right) \times 4$$

$$4\sqrt{x+3} - 0.4 < 8 + (x-1) < 4\sqrt{x+3} + 0.4$$

$$4\sqrt{x+3} - 0.4 < x+7$$

$$4\sqrt{x+3} < x+7.4$$

$$16(x+3) < x^2 + 14.8x + 54.76$$

$$16x + 48 < x^2 + 14.8x + 54.76$$

$$0 < x^2 - 1.2x + 6.76$$

*QF NO REAL SOLUTIONS*

$$x+7 < 4\sqrt{x+3} + 0.4$$

$$x+6.6 < 4\sqrt{x+3}$$

$$x^2 + 13.2x + 43.56 < 16(x+3)$$

$$x^2 + 13.2x + 43.56 < 16x + 48$$

$$x^2 - 2.8x - 4.44 < 0$$

*QF x = -1.1    x = 3.9*

