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## Explicit Expressions and Recursive Processes - Step-by-Step Lesson

Write an explicit and recursive formula for the following sequences.
2, 4, 6, 8...

Explicit: $\qquad$

Recursive: $\qquad$


## Explanation:

An explicit formula allows you to determine any term in a set sequence.
If we take a deep look at the set, we would see:

| 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 (predicted) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $n=1$ | $n=2$ | $n=3$ | $n=4$ | $n=5$ |

We can easily see that for each successive number the term number ( n ) multiplies by 2 . The formula can be represented as:
$\mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{n}}=2 \mathrm{n}$

A recursive formula is a something that we can use to determine the next term in a set or number sequence. It tells us how each term is connected to the next term.

The difference between each term is $2\left(a_{1}=2\right)$. We can display this in a recursive formula using the following:
$a_{n}=a_{n-1}+2$
$a_{\mathrm{n}}=$ term number $\quad \mathrm{a}_{\mathrm{n}-1}=$ the term before the n term

