

You can use the Pythagorean Theorem to help you find the distance between the points A(2, 5) and B(-4, -3).

- A Plot the points A and B in the coordinate plane at right.
- **B** Draw  $\overline{AB}$ .
- **C** Draw a vertical line through point *A* and a horizontal line through point *B* to create a right triangle. Label the intersection of the vertical line and the horizontal line as point *C*.
- **D** Each small grid square is 1 unit by 1 unit. Use this fact to find the lengths *AC* and *BC*.

 $AC = \_8$   $BC = \_6$ 

By the Pythagorean Theorem,  $AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$ . Complete the following using the lengths from Step D.

 $AB^{2} = 8^{2} + 6^{2}$   $AB^{2} = 64 + 36$   $AB^{2} = 100$  **REFLECT** AB = 10

**1a.** Explain how you solved for *AB* in Step F.

Solved using the Pythagorean Thm.

**1b.** Can you use the above method to find the distance between any two points in the coordinate plane? Explain.

Yes  $\rightarrow$  you can always draw a vertical and horizontal lines to make a right triangle.



**Find:** The distance between A and B repeating the process above realizing that the only change is that both ordered pairs are unknown/variables.



$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

## **Processing:**

1. Find the distance between (8, -4) and (2, 2).

2.  

$$d = \sqrt{(2-8)^2 + (2-(-4))^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{36+36} = \sqrt{72} = \sqrt{36*2}$$

$$d = 6\sqrt{2}$$

2. Find the distance between (-1, 2) and (-4, 6).

$$d = \sqrt{(-4 - (-1))^2 + (6 - 2)^2}$$
$$d = \sqrt{9 + 16} = \sqrt{25}$$
$$d = 5$$





## Finding Midpoints:

Given  $A(x_1, y_1)$ ,  $B(x_2, y_2)$ 

**Find:** The midpoint of  $\overline{AB}$ .

$$M_{x-coor} = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$$
$$M_{y-coor} = \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2}$$