

## **Function Notation 101**

$f(x)$ , called function notation, is “read f of x.” It does *not* mean f times x.  
It is just another way to write y.

For example

$$y = 3x + 2 \text{ is the same as } f(x) = 3x + 2$$

**As ordered pairs**

$(x,y)$  is the same as  $(x,f(x))$

**Substituting values**

Let's say  $x=6$ , in function notation we write this as  $f(6)$

Then in our example  $f(6)=3(6)+2 = 11$

Let's say  $y=6$ , in function notation we write this as  $f(x)=6$ .

Then in our example  $6=3x+2$  which means  $x=4/3$

**Helpful Links:**

<http://www.purplemath.com/modules/fcnot.htm>  
<http://www.onlinemathlearning.com/function-notation.html>

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