# Algebra I <br> <br> Lesson 7.2 - Powers of 10 and Scientific Notation <br> <br> Lesson 7.2 - Powers of 10 and Scientific Notation <br> Mrs. Snow, Instructor 

If we were to want to write the weight of an atomic particle or the distance to a far off galaxy, we would be writing some extremely small or large numbers. Scientists have a way to deal with this dilemma it is called scientific notation. For example instead of writing a decimal number 0.000000000023 . we can write in scientific notation and have: $2.3 \times 10^{-11}$. Really? Well that is a multiplication sign between the two numbers and we need to think of $2.3 \times 10^{-11}$ as a product of two numbers: 2.3 , the digit term and $10^{-11}$ as an exponential term. Doing our multiplication.... we would eventually get our teeny tiny decimal number.

## Vocabulary

Scientific Notation - standard format for expressing very large and very small numbers. A number is written in 2 parts. First part is a number greater than or equal to 1 and less than 10 . The second part is a power of 10 :

$$
2.3 \times 10^{5}=2.3 \times 100000=230000
$$

Standard Form - The usual way that a number is written (not scientific form)

Complete the table below:


Notice how we are dividing by 10 between each number. AND THE BASE IS ALWAYS 10

```
To write in powers of 10:
10-3}=.00
    \leftarrow
104}=1000
    ->
10,000,000 = 107
        \leftarrow
0.000001 = 10-6
    ->
```

Start with the number 1 and move the decimal point.
$\longleftarrow$ When a negative exponent move to the left exponent number of times.

## When a positive exponent move to the right exponent number of times.

When the number is greater than 0 , count the number ofplaces to get to the 1 , this is your exponent value.

The decimal is exponent places to the left of 1 so the exponent is negative

Find the value of each expression.

| $10^{6}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $853.4 \times 10^{5}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $0.163 \times 10^{-2}$ | Write each number as a power of <br> $10:$ <br> $100,000,000,000$ | .0000000000001 |


| Jupiter's diameter is about $143,000 \mathrm{~km}$. Write this in <br> scientific notation. | Jupiter's orbital speed is approximately <br> $1.3 \times 10^{4} \frac{\mathrm{~m}}{\mathrm{~s}}$ <br> write in standard form. <br>  <br>  |
| :--- | :--- |

Are these numbers in scientific notation? Correct if necessary
$8.1 \times 10^{-2}$
$7 \times 10^{8}$
$50 \times 10^{-3}$
. 01
$0.25 \times 10^{3}$
$3.5 \times 10^{-6}$


