| Terms | Definitions | Illustrations |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Cube (a <br> number) | When a number is multiplied by itself once, and then <br> again, the number is cubed. <br> To indicate this process, a power of 3 is used. | $4^{3}=4 \times 4 \times 4=64$ <br> For this example we would say "4 cubed is 64". |
| Cube root | Finding the cube root is the inverse process of <br> cubing a number. | The cube root of 8 is 2 because 2 cubed is 8. <br> This is written $\sqrt[3]{8}=2$. |
| Power | The number of times to repeat a multiplication. | $3^{4}=3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3=81$ <br> For this example we would say " 3 to the power 4 <br> is $81 "$. |
| Square (a <br> number) | When a number is multiplied by itself, the number is <br> squared. <br> To indicate this process, a power of 2 is used. | $5^{2}=5 \times 5=25$ <br> For this example we would say " 5 squared is 25 ". |
| Square <br> root | Finding the square root is the inverse process of <br> squaring a number. | The square root of 9 is 3 because 3 squared is 9. |

1| Numeracy and mathematics glossary

## Powers and roots

| Root | The inverse operation of a power. |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Scientific <br> notation | A standardised way of writing numbers using <br> positive and negative powers of 10. <br> Scientific notation is also known as standard form. | 732000 can be written as $7.32 \times 10^{5}$. <br> 0.00045 can be written as $4.5 \times 10^{-4}$. |

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