

## **MATHS – CIRCLE FACTS**

The **circle** is a 2D (flat) shape that can be made by tracing a curve that is always the same distance from a point that we call the centre.

## FACTS



The **centre** of a circle is the point in the very middle.

The **radius** of a circle is a line from the centre of the circle to a point on the side. The radius is the same length all the way around the circle. Mathematicians use the letter *r* for the length of a circle's radius.

The **diameter** of a circle is a straight line that goes from one side to the other, passing right through the centre of the circle. Diameter means 'all the way across'. Mathematicians use the letter d for the length of this line.

The diameter of a circle is equal to twice its radius.  $(d = 2 \times r \text{ or } d = 2r)$ 

The **circumference** of a circle is the distance all the way around it. Circumference means 'all the way around'. Mathematicians use the letter *c* for the length of this line.

An arc is part of the circumference of a circle. The full arc of a circle measures 360 degrees.

A chord is a straight line joining two points on a circle. The diameter is an example of a chord.

A **semicircle** is a shape that forms half a circle.

Circles have a high level of symmetry.



## GOOD TO KNOW!

FIND OUT MORE

The circle shape is a favourite of humans and can be seen in many designs.

The invention of the wheel (a circle shape) was one of the most important in human history.



## EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

- 1. Tell me the definition of a circle.
- 2. What does 'diameter' mean?
- 3. What is an arc?
- 4. What is a chord?
- 5. Tell me a fun fact about circles.