

SINE, COSINE, AND TANGENT

Now you know that there are mathematical functions that give us information about the relationships between angle and side measures in a right triangle, but we still don't really know much about them. You will work with your group to define the three main trigonometric functions: **sine**, **cosine**, and **tangent**. Follow the instructions below carefully, making observations and recording them in your notebook.

- 1) The triangle below should look familiar. Refer to it during this investigation. Also, please retrieve a scientific calculator—each person in your group should have one.
- 2) Locate on your calculator the keys that say SIN, COS, and TAN. These refer to the trigonometric functions sine, cosine, and tangent.
- 3) Using your calculator, determine the results of using the functions sine, cosine, and tangent on the angles in the below triangles. Use a chart like the one below to record your information.

Triangle Name	Reference Angle Measure	Sin	Cos	Tan
Ex. $\triangle ROM$	Angle O = 33°	$\sin(33) = 0.54$	$\cos(33) = 0.84$	$\tan(33) = 0.65$
1. $\triangle GAB$	21°			
2.	21°			
3.	21°			
4. $\triangle GAB$				
5. $\triangle FAC$				
6.				
7. $\triangle GAB$				
8.				
9. $\triangle EAD$				

- 4) Compare this chart to the one you made during the Right Triangle Relationship investigation. Record your observations.
- 5) As a group, make hypotheses about the definitions of sine, cosine, and tangent.
- 6) Make a general definition with your group (*Hint: think about what you would use to find $\sin A$ in the triangle below and then $\cos A$ and $\tan A$*).
- 7) Test this hypothesis by repeating the sine, cosine, and tangent chart using the other special-case right triangle you tested in the Right Triangle Relationship investigation.

