

Vocabulary: Similar Figures



Vocabulary

- Image – a figure that has been transformed, compared to the original figure (the preimage).
 - Transformations include resizing, reflecting, rotating, or translating a figure.
- Preimage – the original figure, before being transformed.
- Scale factor – the ratio of the lengths of the corresponding sides of two similar figures.
 - For example, the side lengths of quadrilateral $EFGH$ are twice as long as the side lengths of quadrilateral $ABCD$, so the ratio of the lengths of each pair of corresponding sides is 2.
- Similar – having the same shape, but not necessarily the same size.
 - The symbol \sim means “is similar to.”
 - For example, quadrilaterals $ABCD$ and $EFGH$ above are the same shape, but not the same size, so $ABCD \sim EFGH$.

