

## Units, Declaring Variables, and the Nature of Algebra

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Why are units important in applying mathematics to real-life situations, and are there times when they are not important? Understanding units can enable students to better appreciate and apply problem-solving processes and the nature of mathematics. This article examines students' use of units (or lack thereof) when solving application problems and makes a case for attending to precision regarding declaring variables and specifying units.

Keywords: algebra, units of measurement, application problems



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