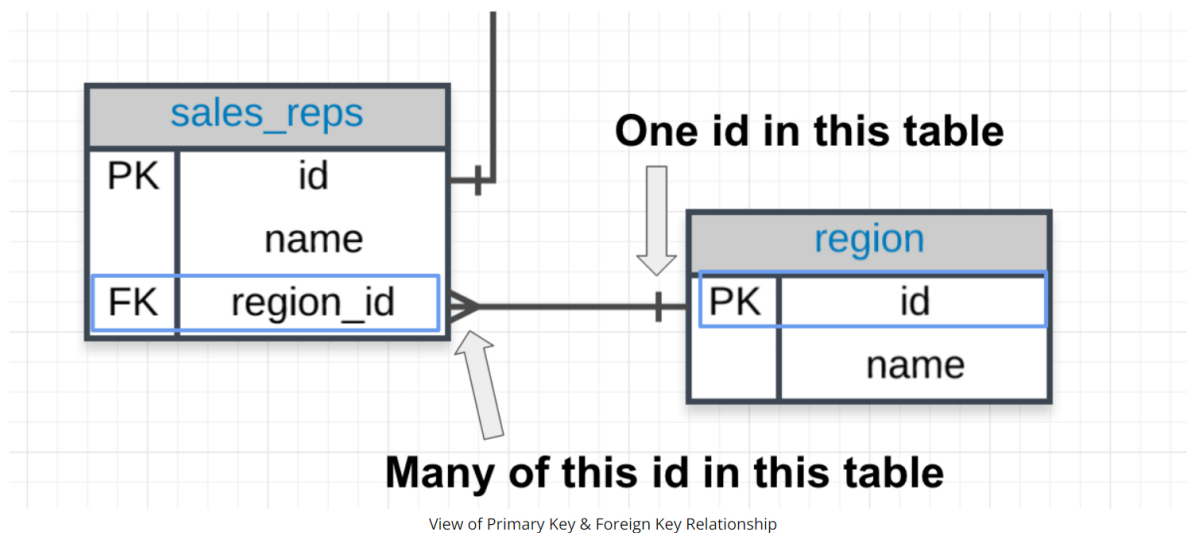# Primary and Foreign Keys

Keys

Primary Key (PK)

A **primary key** is a unique column in a particular table. This is the first column in each of our tables. Here, those columns are all called **id**, but that doesn't necessarily have to be the name. **It is common that the primary key is the first column in our tables in most databases.**

Foreign Key (FK)

A **foreign key** is a column in one table that is a primary key in a different table. We can see in the Parch & Posey ERD that the foreign keys are:

1. **region_id**
2. **account_id**
3. **sales_rep_id**

Each of these is linked to the **primary key** of another table. An example is shown in the image below:

View of Primary Key & Foreign Key Relationship

Primary - Foreign Key Link

In the above image you can see that:

1. The **region_id** is the foreign key.
2. The region_id is **linked** to id - this is the primary-foreign key link that connects these two tables.
3. The crow's foot shows that the **FK** can actually appear in many rows in the **sales_reps** table.
4. While the single line is telling us that the **PK** shows that id appears only once per row in this table.

If you look through the rest of the database, you will notice this is always the case for a primary-foreign key relationship. In the next concept, you can make sure you have this down!

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