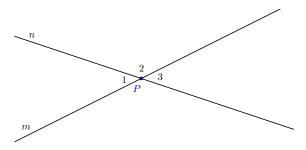
## Vertical Angles

Proofs updated.

**Problem** 1 Point P is the intersection of lines m and n. Prove that  $\angle 1 \cong \angle 3$ .



Fixnote: When students write equations about linear pairs, they often write two equations for non-overlapping linear pairs—which doesn't help. The figure above is intended to help avoid that dead end, but it would be worthwhile to discuss that dead end anyway.

Fixnote: Below are three different brief proofs that omit details. Which of the details should be included?

(a) It must be that  $\angle 1 \cong \angle 3$  because they are both (complementary/supplementary  $\checkmark$ / opposite) to  $\angle 2$ .

Detail: First write down equations about linear pairs of angles:

$$m \angle 1 + m \angle 2 = 180^{\circ}$$

$$m \angle 3 + m \angle 2 = 180^{\circ}$$

By comparing the two equations, it might be clear that  $m\angle 1 = m\angle 3$ . Other students may need to do some algebra.

(b) A rotation of 180° about P maps m onto itself, maps n onto itself, and swaps  $\angle 1$  and  $\angle 3$ . Because rotations preserve angle measures, it must be that  $\angle 1 \cong \angle 3$ .

Author(s): Brad Findell

Detail: Line m is the union of two opposite rays with endpoint P. Check that the 180° rotation about P swaps these opposite rays. The same idea holds for line n so that together the sides of  $\angle 1$  become the sides of  $\angle 3$  and vice versa.

(c) Reflecting about the bisector of  $\angle 2$  swaps  $\angle 1$  and  $\angle 3$ . Because reflections preserve angle measures, it follows that  $\angle 1 \cong \angle 3$ .

Detail: The reflection swaps the two rays that are the sides of  $\angle 2$ . Because reflections take lines to lines, that reflection must swap not just the rays but lines m and n.

