

Unit 7 - Lesson 1

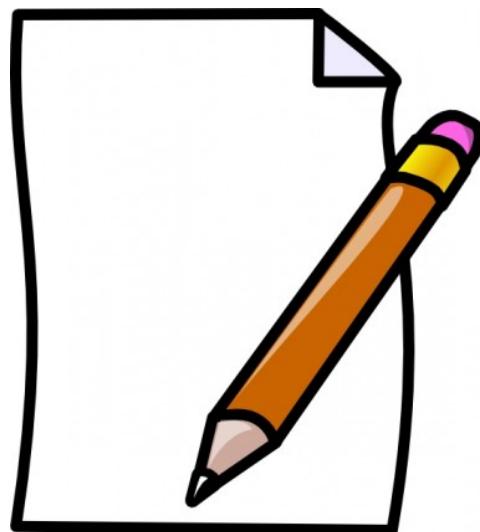
Parameters and Return Explore

Warm Up

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For this lesson, you will need:

Sheet of paper
Pen / Pencil



Activity



makeCake

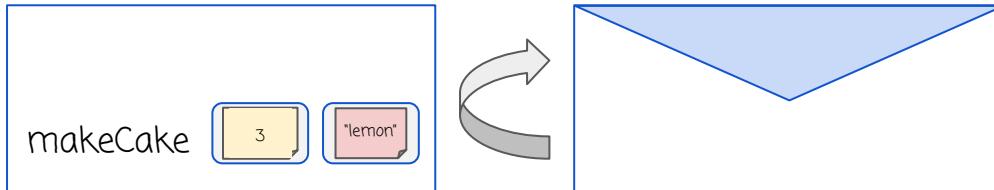
3

"lemon"

3

"lemon"



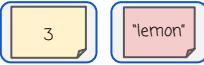


// Instructions for baking a cake

A diagram illustrating a function call. Inside a large rectangular frame, the text "// Instructions for baking a cake" is at the top. Below it, a smaller rectangular box contains the text "makeCake" above two rounded rectangular icons labeled "tiers" and "flavor". A blue line connects this box to a large, light-blue document icon on the right.

makeCake tiers flavor

makeCake



// Instructions for baking a cake

makeCake

3

"lemon"

repeat times:

Bake a cake.
Ice the cake.

3

Assemble layers into one cake.

Put in a box.



// Instructions for baking a cake

makeCake

3

"lemon"

repeat

3

times:

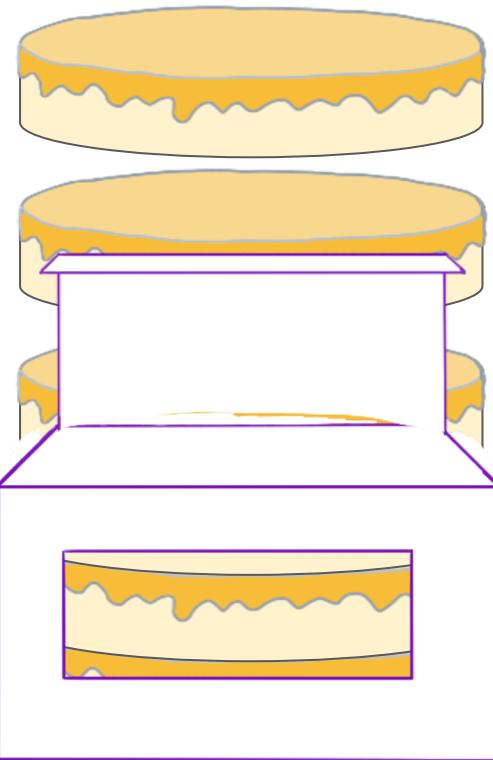
Bake a "lemon" cake.

Ice the cake.

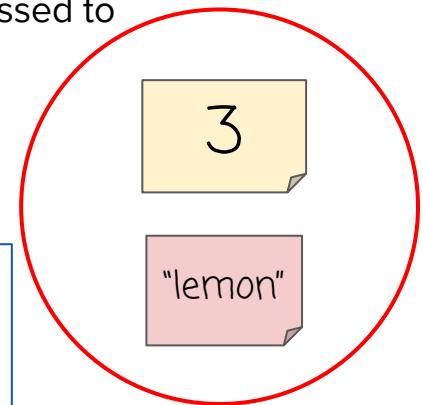
3

Assemble 3 layers into one cake.

Put in a box.



Argument - the value passed to the parameter



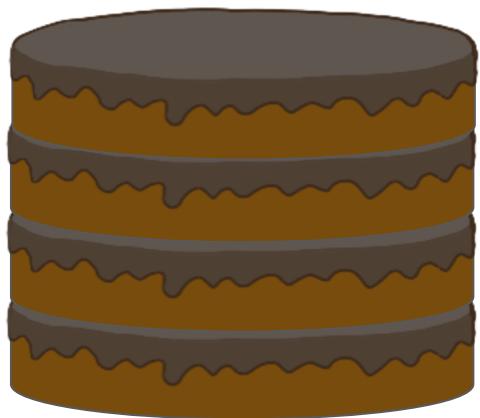
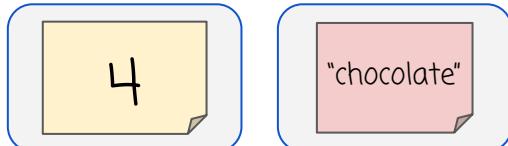
Parameter - a variable in a function definition. Used as a placeholder for values that will be passed through the function.



What if I wanted a four layer chocolate cake? What would that look like?

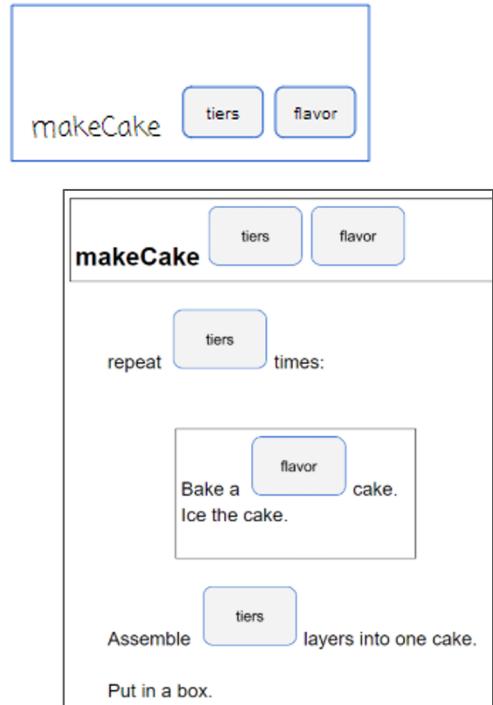


makeCake



Do This: Time to create your own function with parameters!

- Complete Challenge #1 in your Activity Guide



Let's look at another function, this time one that calculates the cost of making a cake.

costCake

Arguments

3

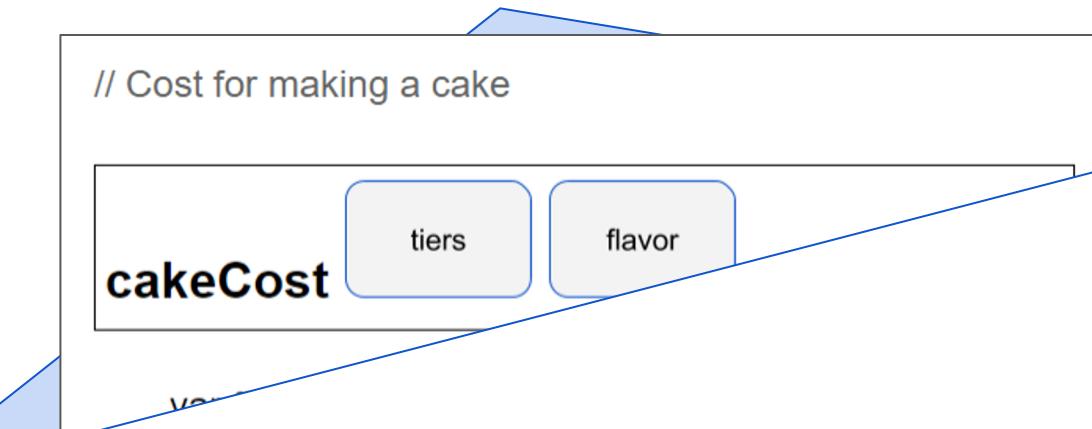
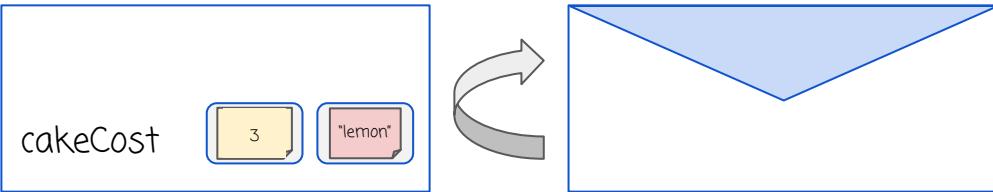
"lemon"

Parameters

3

"lemon"





```
// Cost for making a cake
```



```
var flavorCost  
var total
```

```
If flavor equals "chocolate":  
    flavorCost = 5
```

```
If flavor equals "lemon":  
    flavorCost = 4
```

```
If flavor equals "vanilla":  
    flavorCost = 3
```

```
total = flavorCost multiplied by
```

```
return total
```

Create two new local variables, **flavorCost** and **total**.

Determine the value of **flavorCost** based on the argument passed through the flavor parameter

Calculate **total** using **flavorCost** and the argument passed through the `tiers` parameter

???????

```
// Cost for making a cake
```

```
cakeCost [3] ["lemon"]
```

```
var flavorCost  
var total
```

```
If flavor equals "chocolate":  
    flavorCost = 5
```

```
If flavor equals "lemon":  
    flavorCost = 4
```

```
If flavor equals "vanilla":  
    flavorCost = 3
```

```
total = flavorCost multiplied by
```

```
tiers
```

```
return total
```

After running this, what does **flavorCost** equal?

4

What does **total** equal?

12

```
// Cost for making a cake
```

```
cakeCost
```

The variable `cakeCost` is shown with a yellow box containing the value `3`. The variable `flavor` is shown with a pink box containing the value `"lemon"`. The variable `tiers` is shown with a blue box.

```
var flavorCost  
var total
```

```
If flavor equals "chocolate":  
    flavorCost = 5
```

```
If flavor equals "lemon":  
    flavorCost = 4
```

```
If flavor equals "vanilla":  
    flavorCost = 3
```

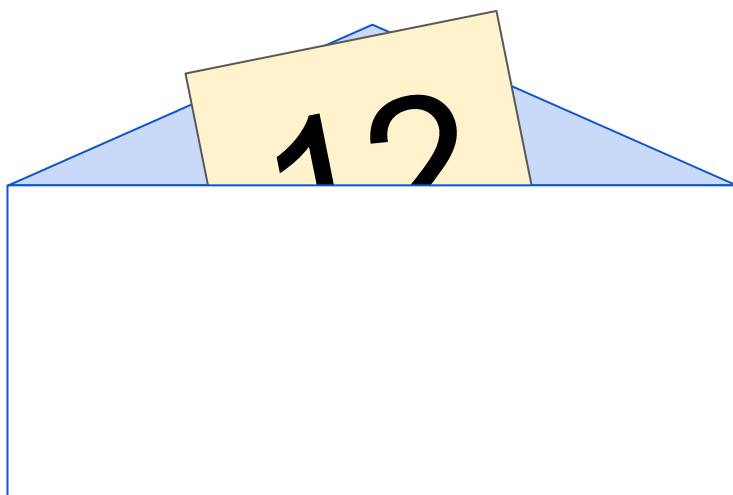
```
total = flavorCost multiplied by
```

```
return total
```

What does it mean to return total?

A return does two things:

- It stops the flow of the function. If a return is inside of a conditional, if that condition is met the function ends there.
- It **returns** a value to the place where the function was called.

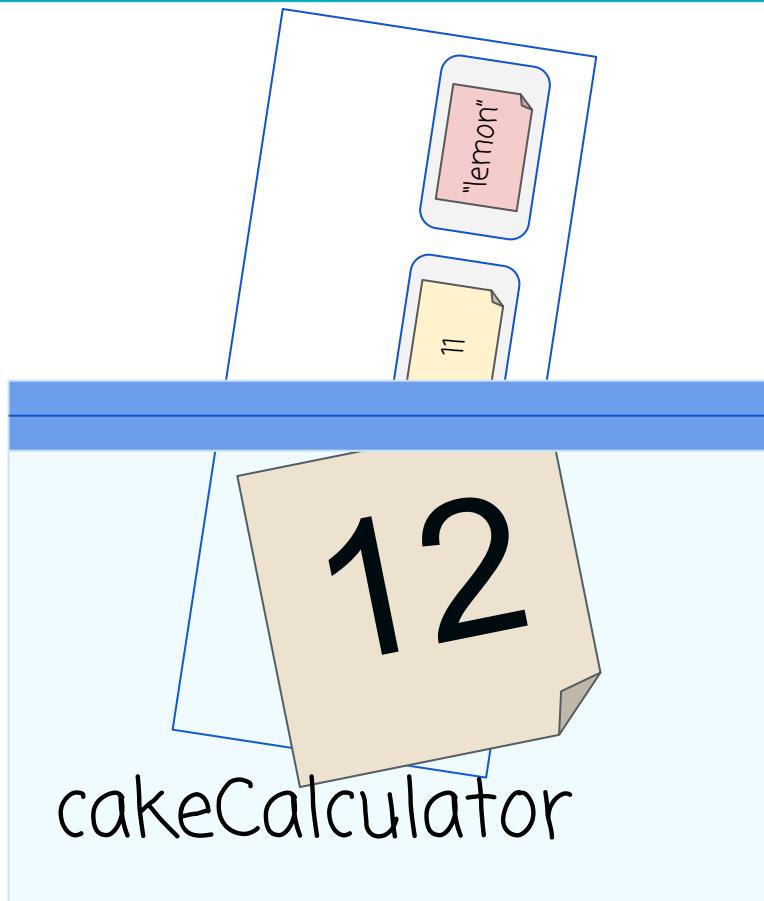


We've called the `cakeCost` function. It has returned the value **12**.

But what happens to that value?

How is it stored?

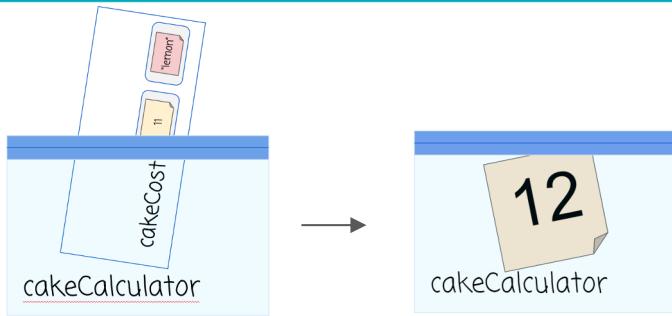




Let's return to
variable baggies!

A function **return**
value can be stored
in a variable.





Here's how this looks in Javascript:

```
var cakeCalculator = cakeCost(3, "lemon");
```

After the expression is evaluated,
cakeCalculator stores the value **12**.

We can also print to the console like so:

```
console.log("Cake cost: " + cakeCost(3,  
"lemon"));
```

Console

Cake cost: 12

Wrap Up



Takeaways

- Functions with parameters and return values help us simplify our code
- Functions can only return one value at a time
- A function can have:
 - No parameters and no return values
 - Parameters, but no return values
 - Return values, but no parameters
 - Parameters and return values

Vocabulary

- **Parameter** - a variable in a function definition. Used as a placeholder for values that will be passed through the function.
- **Argument** - the value passed to the parameter
- **Return** - used to return the flow of control to the point where the procedure (also known as a function) was called and to return the value of expression.