

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Exploring Numbers: Unraveling the Mystery of Composite and Prime Numbers

### Short Answer Key

1. A composite number is a whole number with more than two factors, while a prime number has exactly two factors: 1 and itself.
2. Example: 10 is a composite number with the factors 1, 2, 5, and 10.
3. Prime numbers have exactly two factors because they cannot be formed by multiplying other whole numbers together.
4. To determine if a number is composite, check if it has more than two factors. To determine if a number is prime, check if it has exactly two factors.
5. Prime numbers are considered the building blocks of the number system because they cannot be formed by multiplying other whole numbers together, making them the fundamental components of all other numbers.

