Greatest Common Factor and Least Common Multiple - Step-by-Step Lesson

Lesson 1 Factors Problem:

a) Find the greatest common factor:

Factors of 5 and 9: _____

b) Find the least common multiple:

Multiple of 4 and 8: _____

Explanation:

a)Step 1) We know that the greatest common factor is the greatest whole number that is a factor of each of the numbers.

Step 2) Now we have to list the factors of each number. Then find the largest number that appears in both lists.

Factors of 5:   5, 1

Factors of 9:   3, 9, 1

So, the greatest common factor of 5 and 9 is **1**.

b) Step 1) We know that The least common multiple is the smallest whole number that is a multiple of each of the two numbers.

Step 2) List the multiples of each number. Find the lowest number that appears in both lists.

Multiple of 4:   4, 8, 12, 16, 20

Multiple of 8:   8, 16, 24, 32, 40

So, the least common multiple of 4 and 8 is 8.