

HW 4.6.1: Building a Roller Coaster

A model rollercoaster has been assigned to you in which the entrance starts at (0,12) and exits at (12,0). The rollercoaster has a local minimum at (5, 1) and a local maximum at (9, 6). The slope of the curve at the entrance and exit points must be zero in order to facilitate getting on and off the roller coaster car.

Create a piecewise function using the cosine function that creates a smooth model that satisfies the requirements above.

Create a piecewise function using the sine function that creates a smooth model that satisfies the requirements above.

[Challenge] Create a piecewise function using the quadratic or cubic function that creates a smooth model that satisfies the requirements above.

Teacher Note: To do the piecewise correctly the student will need to use Calculus

Partial Selected Answers using Desmos.com:

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \hline & y = 5.5 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{5}(x)\right) + 6.5 \{0 < x < 5\} \\ \hline & y = -2.5 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}(x-5)\right) + 3.5 \{5 < |x < 9\} \\ \hline & y = 3 \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{3}(x-9)\right) + 3 \{9 < x < 12\} \\ \hline & 0 \\ \hline & 5 \\ \hline & 0 \\ \hline & 5 \\ \hline & 10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Sines (answers may vary)

$$y = -5.5 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{5}(x-2.5)\right) + 6.5\{0 < x < 5\}$$

$$y = 2.5 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}(x-7)\right) + 3.5\{5 < x < 9\}$$

$$y = -3 \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{3}(x-10.5)\right) + 3\{9 < x < 12\}$$