## Greatest Common Factors and Least Common Multiples

A Venn diagram can be used to show the greatest common factor of two numbers.

prime factors of 30 and 45

The numbers in the left circle $(2,5,3)$ are the prime factors of 30 and the numbers in the right circle $(5,3,3)$ are the prime factors of 45 . The numbers in the middle $(5,3)$ are the shared prime factors of 30 and $45.5 \times 3=15$, so 15 is the greatest common factor of 30 and 45.

1) Use a Venn diagram to find the greatest common factor of 12 and 18.

$$
\text { factors of } 12 \text { factors of } 18
$$


2) Use a Venn diagram to find the greatest common factor of 60 and 75 .
3) How could you use the a Venn diagram to find the least common multiple of two numbers? (Take a look back at the previous diagrams.)

As a reminder, here is a different way to show the least common multiple of 30 and 45:
$30,60,90,120,150, \ldots$
$45,90,135,180,215 \ldots$

4) The greatest common factor of two numbers is 12 and the least common multiple of the same two numbers is 360 . What are the two numbers?

Is there more than one solution?

