

Beverage Survey

Target Grade: 3
Standards of Learning
Math 3.21 and 3.22

Overview

Students survey their families and use data to generate a bar graph that displays what their families drink.

Objective

Students will collect, organize, and analyze data.
Students will construct a bar graph to represent their results.

Essential Question

What drinks are most popular in the homes of local school children?

Management

- Two class sessions with a week interval
- Class collaboration

Materials

- Grid-lined poster board
- Calculators

Preparation

Photocopy an Iced Tea, Please! survey (AP #2) for each student.

Activity

1. Pass out surveys and review the directions. Give students one week to return the surveys to class.
2. Help students organize their data using paper and pencil, tally marks, and calculators. Together create a bar graph on the poster board that shows all beverages and the number of family members who consumed them.
3. Have each student write a sentence analyzing the data. For example: "There were 35 more juice drinkers than milk drinkers."
4. Ask the children to use their survey charts to further analyze their data. For example: Which age group drinks more coffee? What time of day do they drink it? What is the most popular beverage among third graders? Note data that may indicate special diets or cultural preferences.

Assessment

Check the students' sentences for accuracy.

Variations

- Have students survey the drink preferences of all children and staff in your school. Create a bar graph that shows the results for the whole school. Then have children work in small groups to create bar graphs that show the drinking preferences for each grade level (and a separate graph for adult staff).
- Have an international cold beverage tasting party in your classroom. Have students choose their favorite beverage, then organize and graph this data. Include a popular drink from Japan!