

The learner will collect, organize and display data.

4

4.01 Collect and organize data as a group activity.

A. Gathering Data

Materials: Snap cubes, beans, counters, and small bags or boxes

Instructions: Initially, students are asked questions about preferences (ice cream flavors, lunch, fruit, games, pets, etc. for which the teacher has set up “voting booths” or “ballot boxes”. Limit the choices to less than five. Each student places her/his counter in the appropriate box and votes are tallied by the teacher. By November, individual students can select the topic to be polled and organize the class for the collection of data. In this way students can experience polling and the beginnings of statistical sampling.

4.02 Display and describe data with concrete and pictorial graphs as a group activity.

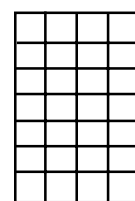
A. Getting To Know Us

Materials: graphing grid, paper symbols for graphs

Instructions: Use graphing as a way for kindergartners to learn more about each other. Graph to find out how many boys/girls are in the class; hair color; eye color; how they come to school; how many people are in their family;

Notes and textbook references

Make a large graphing mat by splitting a trash bag and using masking tape to make a grid.



This activity is best completed when there are a couple of extra adults in the classroom.

what type of pets they have; whether they live in a house, a trailer, or an apartment; their birthday month; etc. Have the children tell what the graph shows. Write at least one sentence dictated by the children about the graph. Display the graphs in one area if possible. When the graphs are taken down, bind the graphs along with the dictated sentences into a big book that children can “read” at book time. Save some of the graphs for comparison with next year’s class.

Variation: Graph and make a big book of “Our Favorite Things.” Graphs can include favorite color, favorite cartoon, favorite TV program, favorite Nintendo game, favorite ice cream flavor, favorite superhero, favorite pet, favorite equipment on the playground, etc.

B. Doughnut Delights











Materials: electric frying pan and vegetable oil; canned refrigerator biscuits (use inexpensive ones); bags with powdered sugar, cinnamon and sugar, and cocoa and sugar; graphing mat; small paper plates

Instructions: Children wash their hands and in small groups with the teacher make their doughnuts. (Pull a hole in the center of a canned biscuit and fry in hot oil for two to four minutes, turning once.) While doughnuts are cooking, each child writes his or her name on a paper plate. After doughnuts cool for a couple of minutes, let each child shake a doughnut in the coating of his or her choice.

For a pictorial graph: Children take doughnuts to their seats. On another paper plate (or a paper circle), children write their names and color a picture of the doughnuts they made.

Mathematics Their Way by Mary Baretta-Lorton is a classic resource for graphing ideas.

We Made Doughnuts Today!

plain	
chocolate	   
powdered sugar	 
cinnamon	  

C. Our Visitors

Materials: stuffed animals (each child may bring one in a paper bag to “visit” the class for a day), graphing mat, 4” x 6” index cards or half sheets of typing paper

Instructions: Children bring their stuffed animals (teacher can bring several extra for those who forget) and sort them in many ways. After talking about the animals and grouping many times, create a graph to answer the question “What kind of stuffed animals did we bring to school?” Create category labels and graph animals on the floor mat. Discuss. Then, give children an index card on which to draw their animal and write their name.

Create a pictorial graph with the same categories as the floor graph of stuffed animals.

Notes and textbook references

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