

Collecting categorical data

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Learning intention

- acquire and record data for categorical variables in various ways including using digital tools, objects, images, drawings, lists, tally marks and symbols

Teach and model

- discussing methods of collecting data to answer a question, such as “What types of rubbish are found in the playground?”, sharing ideas and trying out some of the...
- collecting and recording information on a topic of interest using lists; for example, “how many people follow a particular football team” or “what colour eyes each...
- creating a tally to record data while observing events such as the year level of students using the bike shed; deciding on the possible categories before the...

Check understanding

- Explain the main idea in collecting categorical data using an example.
- Show the idea in a second way: with words, a model, a diagram or symbols.
- Apply the idea to a short unfamiliar situation and justify the result.

Teaching cautions

- Ask the student to explain their choice, not only state an answer.
- Check that key vocabulary is understood in a new example.
- Mix representations so the skill is transferred rather than copied.

Quick lesson sequence

- Connect to prior knowledge and introduce the key vocabulary.
- Model one clear example, then solve a second example together.
- Finish with an independent check and a short student explanation.