

REPRESENTING DATA GRAPHICALLY / LESSON OVERVIEW

Objectives

The students will:

- understand that data is information that can be used to understand or solve problems;
- learn how to display data into tables;
- learn how to display data graphically using line plots, bar graphs, and pictographs;
- and learn how to answer questions using tables and graphs.

Lesson Summary

Part 1. Data (5 minutes or less)

- Explain categorical data versus numerical data.

Part 2. Tables (30 – 45 minutes)

- Understand that data is information that can be used to understand or solve problems
- Demonstrate how data can be organized in table form.

Part 3. Graphs (30 – 45 minutes)

- Explain how data can be illustrated in graphs
- Explain line plots, bar graphs, and pictographs. Examples of each.

Activity 1. Organizing and Graphing Shark Data (45 – 60 minutes)

Students will create their own tables, line plots, and bar graphs from data collected on the Global Shark Tracker™. Each student will explore the Global Shark Tracker™ to find and record the name, gender, length, and weight of six great white sharks into a table. Students will then use the table to answer a few questions about the tagged sharks and create their own graphs describing the data in the table.

Materials

- Computer with internet access
- Paper
- Pencil
- Ruler or straight edge
- Colored pencils, crayons or markers