Choosing Measures of Center

Today's Standard

6.SP.B5d - Relating the choice of measures of center and variability to the shape of the data distribution and the context in which the data were gathered.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing test scores to determine class performance; Evaluating weather data to understand climate patterns; Comparing prices of products in different stores; Assessing sports statistics to improve team strategies

Today I Learned

Today we learned how to choose the best way to find the middle of a group of numbers and how to understand how spread out the numbers are.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think the average is always the best way to find the middle, but that's not true. Also, they might think that if numbers are close together, how spread out they are doesn't matter, but it does.

Quiz Me

- What is the average of these numbers: 2, 4, 6?

- What is the middle number of these: 1, 3, 5?

- Which number shows up the most: 2, 2, 3?

- What is the difference between the biggest and smallest number: 1, 4, 7?

- Why is it important to know how spread out numbers are?

Help Me

We use these ideas to understand things like test scores, weather patterns, and prices in different stores. It helps us make better decisions.