Comparative Inferences Using Statistics

Today's Standard

7.SP.B4 - Use measures of center and measures of variability for numerical data from random samples to draw informal comparative inferences about two populations. For example, decide whether the words in a chapter of a seventh-grade science book are generally longer than the words in a chapter of a fourth-grade science book.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Comparing average test scores between two schools; Analyzing the heights of plants grown with different fertilizers; Determining if one brand of batteries lasts longer than another; Comparing the average time spent on homework by students in two different grades

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to use math to compare two groups of things. For example, we can see if one group of students is taller than another group by looking at their heights.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think they only need to look at the average to compare groups, but they also need to see how spread out the numbers are. Another mistake is thinking bigger groups are always better, but they need to be random too.

Quiz Me

- What is the average?
- What is the median?
- What does 'range' mean?
- Why do we need random samples?
- How can we compare two groups?

Help Me

We use math to compare things in real life, like seeing which brand of batteries lasts longer or which class did better on a test. We look at the average and how spread out the numbers are to make a good comparison.