Linear Relationships in Scatter Plots

Today's Standard

8.SP.A2 - Know that straight lines are widely used to model relationships between two quantitative variables. For scatter plots that suggest a linear association, informally fit a straight line, and informally assess the model fit by judging the closeness of the data points to the line.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Predicting trends in business sales data; Analyzing the relationship between temperature and energy consumption; Evaluating the correlation between study hours and test scores; Modeling the relationship between height and weight in health studies; Forecasting weather patterns based on historical data

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to use straight lines to show relationships between two things that can be measured. We drew lines on scatter plots to see how close the points are to the line.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that all points should perfectly fit on the line or that the line must touch every point. But, the line of best fit just shows the general trend.

Quiz Me

- What is a scatter plot?

- What do we use a line of best fit for?

- Do all points have to be on the line?

- What does the line show us?

- Can the line be perfect?

Help Me

We use straight lines to understand how two things are related. For example, if you study more, you might get better grades. We draw a line to see the general trend, even if not every point is on the line.