

Correlation vs. Causation

Today's Standard

HSS.ID.C9 - Distinguish between correlation and causation.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing health studies to determine if a factor causes a disease.; Evaluating economic data to see if market trends predict financial outcomes.; Understanding social science research to see if behaviors are influenced by certain variables.; Interpreting scientific experiments to distinguish between correlated and causal relationships.

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about the difference between correlation and causation. Correlation means two things happen together, but causation means one thing makes the other happen.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that if two things happen together, one must cause the other. But that's not always true. Also, if two things don't seem related, it doesn't mean they aren't connected in some way.

Quiz Me

- What does correlation mean?
- What does causation mean?
- Can two things be related without one causing the other?
- Why is it important to know the difference between correlation and causation?
- Can you give an example of correlation that isn't causation?

Help Me

Understanding the difference between correlation and causation helps us make better decisions. For example, just because people eat more ice cream in the summer and more people drown in the summer, doesn't mean eating ice cream causes drowning. Knowing this helps us understand the real reasons behind things.

