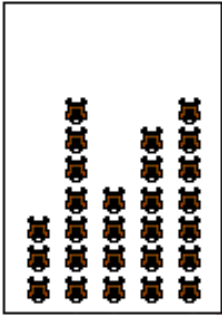


Graph Club Mystery #1: The Missing Chimps



Graph Type:
Picture

Level:
Grades 1-3

Materials:
Copies of each
graph clue

Learning Objectives

- Interpreting graphs
- Logical thinking
- Working cooperatively with a team

Directions

1. Print multiple copies of each of the four graph clues. Be sure you have enough to give one clue to each student. For example, if you have a class of 24, make 6 copies of each clue.
2. Introduce the mystery: Two chimps were stolen from a preserve and secretly sold to a zoo. Detectives have collected several clues. Tell students it's up to them to analyze the clues and find the chimps.
3. Assign teams of four students and give each member of the team a different clue. Tell each student to review his or her clue and share the findings with the team. Then ask each team to decide where the chimps are being held.
4. Ask one group to share its solution. Take a hand vote to see if the class agrees. Ask students to explain how they reached their conclusion.

Extensions

- Create your own graph mysteries featuring topics and graph types that suit your students' interests and ability levels.
- Have students work in teams to create graph mysteries. This is a challenging task because teams must collaborate to create a mystery premise, design clues, and make sure that the combined clues eliminate all but one suspect. More difficult mysteries might involve circle or line graphs. When mysteries are complete, have students solve each other's mysteries or challenge students in another class to do so.