

# Ask, Count, and Graph



Dear Family,

This week your child's class starts a **math data project**. In a small team, your child asks classmates one question, such as *"What is your favorite sport?"* (the topics are animals, colors, sports, and fruits). The team records each answer with a **tally mark**, counts the marks, and shows the results on a **bar graph**. Then they use the graph to answer questions like *"How many more?"* Along the way, first graders learn to organize information, compare numbers, and explain what they found. Everyone has a job on the team: **reader, writer, artist, or speaker**.

## The project, day by day



Wed, Oct 14  
**Survey and tally**

Each team asks its classmates one question and records every answer with a tally mark.



Thu, Oct 15  
**Compare findings**

Teams gather answers from a partner first grade class and compare the two sets of results.



Fri, Oct 16  
**Draft a graph**

Students turn their tally marks into a bar graph and write questions the graph can answer.



Mon-Tue, Oct 19-20  
**Make the poster**

Teams finish their graph and questions and copy them onto a large poster.



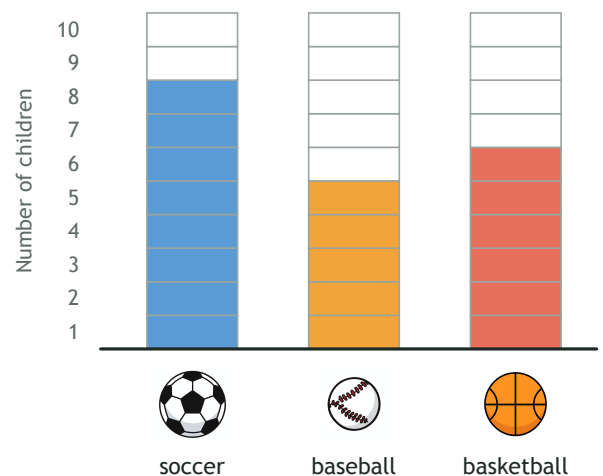
Wed, Oct 21  
**Share with families!**

A science-fair-style showcase: students stand by their posters and explain their work to the families who stop by.

## What it looks like

*A team asks: "What is your favorite sport?"*

| Answer                                                                                         | Tally marks | Total |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|-------|
|  soccer     | /           | 8     |
|  baseball   | /           | 5     |
|  basketball | /           | 6     |



**1. Tally.** One mark for each child. The fifth mark crosses the group of four, so the marks are easy to count by 5s.

**2. Graph.** Color one square for each child. Now you can see which answer has the most.

## Reading the graph

Ask your child questions like the ones the teams write (answers from the graph on page 1).

How many children chose basketball?

6

Which sport did the most children choose?

Soccer

How many more children chose soccer than baseball?

$8 - 5 = 3$ . Three more.

How many children answered in all?

$8 + 5 + 6 = 19$

## Key words

The presentations will be in Spanish, so here are the key words in both languages.

**data**

*datos*

**tally mark**

*marca de conteo*

**total**

*total*

**bar graph**

*gráfica de barras*

**most**

*la mayoría*

**more**

*más*

**fewer**

*menos*

## Try this at home



### Family survey

Help your child ask everyone at home one question, such as “Apples or bananas?” Make a tally mark for each answer, then count. Which got more? How many more?



### Toy graph

Sort a handful of toys, snacks, or socks by kind into rows, lined up like the bars of a graph. Which row is the longest? How many fewer are in the shortest row?



### Tally walk

On a walk, keep a tally of what you see: dogs, buses, red cars. At home, count the marks together, by 5s.



## Presentation day: Wednesday, October 21

Families are invited to a science-fair-style showcase: students stand by their posters and answer your questions, in Spanish.

**New date:** the showcase moved from Tuesday because of a schedule change. **Cartagena and Venezuela:** 9:30-10:00 am. **España and DR:** 10:45-11:15 am. **Colombia and Managua:** 2:30-3:00 pm.

*Right:* a teacher's example poster, *Deportes favoritos* (Favorite Sports). Each smiley face is one child. The questions at the bottom are the kind each team writes.

