

Stations: Get your data in order: Finding the median and mean **Math 6**

Work in groups of 3-5 students.

Read the instructions at each station carefully.

Record the data that you collect and then find the median and mean for each set.



Station 1 : Roll the Dice

At this station, you will take turns rolling the dice and record the rolls in the table below.

- Roll 2 dice at a time
- Record the sum of each roll in the table below
- Do this 7 times
- Now, rewrite the data in order from least to greatest
- Find the Median
- Calculate the Mean - show your calculations

Roll #	Value of the roll	<i>Use space below to show your work and calculations</i>	Order values from least to greatest to find the MEDIAN
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
	MEAN =		MEDIAN =

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Station 2 : How do the pencils measure up?

At this station you and your group must measure the pencils to the nearest cm

- Record the measurement in the table
- Rewrite the lengths from least to greatest
- Find the median
- Calculate the Mean

Pencil #	Length in cm	<i>Use space below to show your work and calculations</i>	Order values from least to greatest to find the MEDIAN
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
	MEAN =		MEDIAN =

Do you think the mean or the median best describes the lengths of the pencils in the group?
Why?

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Station 3 : Temperature Research Station

At this station, you can each choose your own state and record the data.

- Launch the website for [climate data](#)
- Pick a state
- Record the average monthly high temperatures by month
- Rewrite it in order from least to greatest
- Find the Median (With your group, talk about how to find the middle number of 12 data points)
- Calculate the Mean

STATE: _____

Month	High temperature (F)	Use space below to show your work and calculations	Order values from least to greatest to find the MEDIAN
January			
February			
March			
April			
May			
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			
November			
December			
	MEAN=		MEDIAN =

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Station 4 : Make a basket



Now it's time to practice your shot! How many baskets can you make? Take turns shooting 7 shots in a row. Rotate through 4 times to calculate the your own median and mean

- Ball up 7 pieces of paper
- Shoot from a 5-6 ft away from the recycling bin
- Record how many baskets you make out of 7
- Do this 4 times
- Rewrite the data in order from least to greatest
- Find the Median - for your 4 turns
- Calculate the Mean

Round \$	Number of shots made out of 7	Use space below to show your work and calculations	Order values from least to greatest to find the MEDIAN
1			
2			
3			
4			
	MEAN =		MEDIAN =

Explain how you found the MEDIAN when there was an even number of values. What is the middle number?

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Station 5: Rock, Paper, Scissors

Everyone likes a good game of rock, paper, scissors. Remember: Rock beats scissors, scissors beats paper, paper beats rock. Play against your partners. You can play as a whole group, or split into pairs.

- Play rock paper scissors with your partners
- If you win, you get 2 points, If you lose you get 0 points, If you tie you get 1 point
- Play a round of 5 “shoots”
- Record your score
- Play a total of 5 rounds
- Rewrite the data for your 5 rounds in order from least to greatest
- Find your Median score - (for all 5 rounds)
- Calculate your Mean score
- Compare to your partners scores

Round #	Points you earned W=2 L = 0 T = 1	Use space below to show your work and calculations	Order values from least to greatest to find the MEDIAN
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
	MEAN =		MEDIAN =

Compare your scores to the rest of the players in your group. What do you notice?

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

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Practice and Reflection

1.) For the following 2 sets of data, find the median and the mean

A)

Test Scores	Use this space for work
75	
83	
91	
100	
96	

MEDIAN : _____

MEAN : _____

B)

Number of people who ride the bus		Use this space for work
Mon.	26	
Tues.	37	
Wed.	30	
Thurs.	45	
Fri.	52	

MEDIAN : _____

MEAN : _____

Name: _____ Period: _____ Date: _____

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Use the examples from problem to help you answer the next questions

2.) When would MEAN be the best measure of average? Explain.

3.) When would MEDIAN be a better measure of average? Explain.

4.) Explain how to find the MEDIAN if the data set has an even number of values and has 2 middle numbers. Provide an example to show your reasoning.