

Name _____

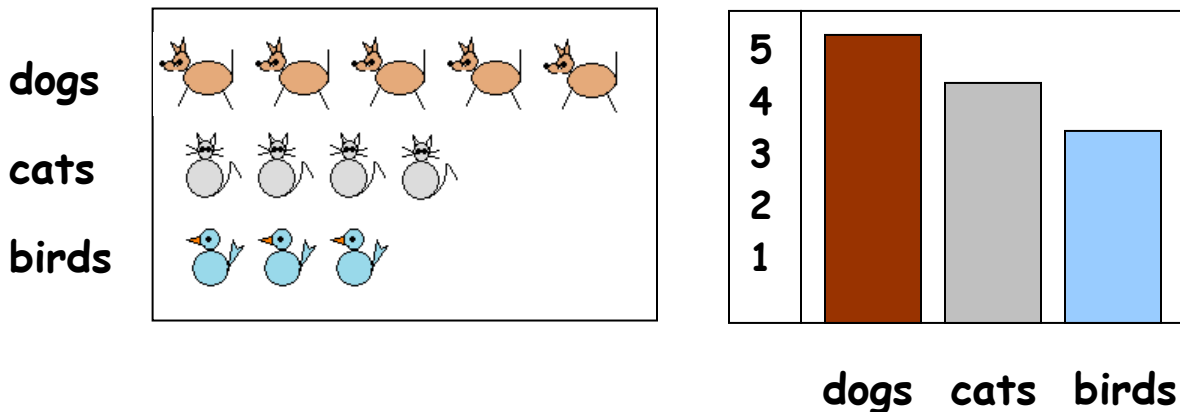
Date _____

Math – Pictures and Bars – Learning About Graphs

Suppose we wanted to know what pets our friends had. We could count all the people who had dogs, all those who had cats, and all those who had birds. When we have finished counting them all, wouldn't it be nice to have an easy way of showing how many dogs, cats and birds there were? Can you think how we could do this?

One way is to make a graph. Graphs are pictures or **charts**, which help us to see different amounts easily. We are going to talk about two different kinds of graphs today. A **picture graph** and a **bar graph**. The objects we count are called **data**. The picture graph uses pictures to show the data. Sometimes, if we have lots of data we can use one picture to stand for more than one object. If we do, we call the picture a **symbol** because it stands for something different (one picture of a dog can stand for 5 dogs). When we use symbols, we need a **key** to tell people what the symbol stands for.

A bar graph shows the same data, but uses different size **bars** or **columns**. The bars can go from side to side or from the bottom up. Here is a picture graph showing the number of different pets our friends have and a bar graph showing the same **data**.



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Math – Pictures and Bars – Learning About Graphs Questions

A: What is the graph telling us?

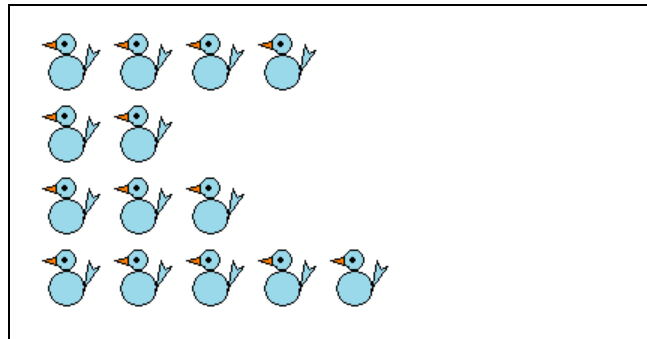
We counted the number of birds we saw in the playground. Mike, Anne, Ted and Mary recorded the birds they saw on a picture graph.


Mike

Anne

Ted

Mary



Key:  = 2 birds

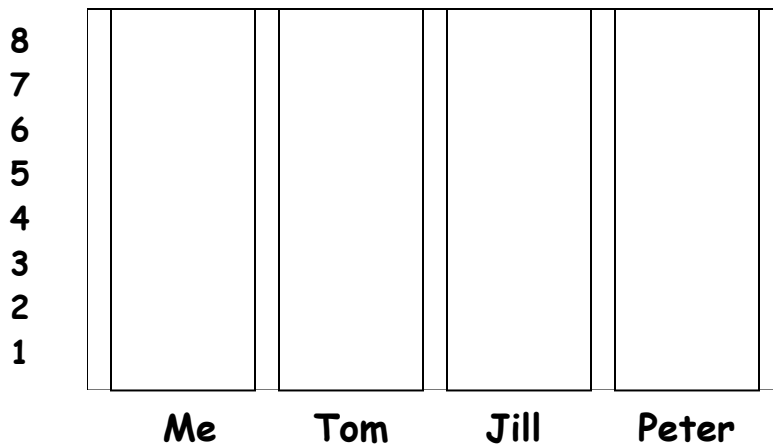
Can you answer the following questions using the picture graph?

1. Who saw the most birds?
2. Who saw the least birds?
3. How many birds did Ted see?
4. How many birds did Mike see?

B: Can you make a bar graph?

Here is the data; can you fill it in on the bar graph by coloring the columns?

I brought 5 cookies to school, Tom brought 3, Jill brought 6 and Peter brought 8.



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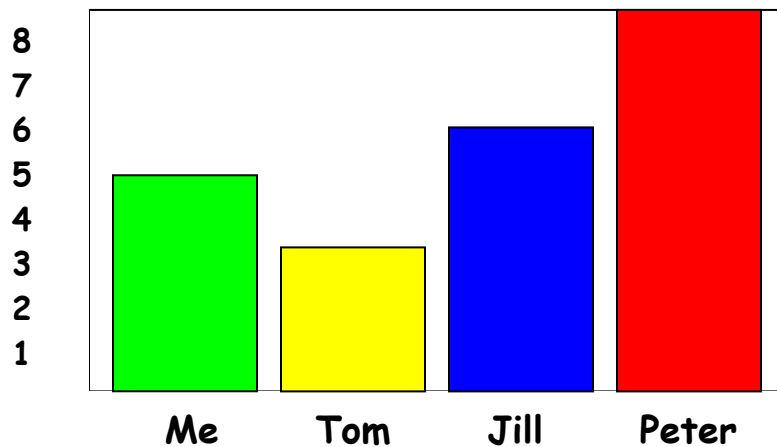
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Math – Pictures and Bars – Learning About Graphs Answers

Activity A

1. Mary
2. Anne
3. 6
4. 8

Activity B



It might be a good idea to let the children use a ruler to mark off the level before coloring in the column.