



Stuart J. Murphy's
MathStart[®]

Best Vacation Ever
Level 2 / Ages 6+
Collecting Data



Learning to organize and interpret data develops the ability for critical thought.

Story Description

The family needs a break. Everybody's always so busy. But where should they go? A very smart and practical little girl asks some key questions and charts the answers. Mom wants to go some place quiet and cool. Grandma and brother Charlie are looking for fun. And everybody but Dad wants Fluffer the cat to come along. Is there any place that'll make everyone happy? Learning to organize and interpret data develops the ability for critical thought.

Illustrated by Bernard Westcott.

Activities

- Discuss what the girl learns from each of the charts she makes. Ask questions throughout the story, such as: "Do more people want to go somewhere warm or cool?" and "Do more people want to stay near or go far?"
- Look around your neighborhood and note what categories of things are more popular than others. For example: What cars do more people drive-big or small? Red or blue? What do more kids like to wear to school-running shoes or sandals? Bright colors or light colors? Help your child (or students) record this information. Then discuss the answers to the questions.
- Plan a picnic with your child (or class). What questions would you ask to find out each person's favorite foods? How would you chart the information? Can you figure out a menu that most people would like?



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