LESSON MAKER PRO

Middle Matters

Find the value in the middle of a data set.

GRADE 5 · 5.PS.2.c

5.PS.2.c "Describe and determine the median of a set of data values representing data from a given context as a measure of center."

NAME _____ DATE _____

FINDING THE MEDIAN

Put the data values in order from least to greatest. The median is the middle value. If there are two middle values, add them and divide by 2 to find their average.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Find the median of 20, 4, 15, 9, 12.

1. Order the values: 4, 9, 12, 15, 20.
2. There are 5 values, so one value is in the middle.
3. The middle value is 12.

Answer: 12

PRACTICE 6 problems

1 Find the median of 7, 2, 10, 5, 8.

ANSWER _____

2 Find the median of 14, 6, 11, 3.

ANSWER _____

3 Find the median of 18, 16, 21, 19, 17.

ANSWER _____

4 Find the median of 25, 22, 24, 26, 23, 27.

ANSWER _____

5 A student counted 31, 28, 31, 29, and 30 birds on five mornings. Find the median. Then tell what the median describes.

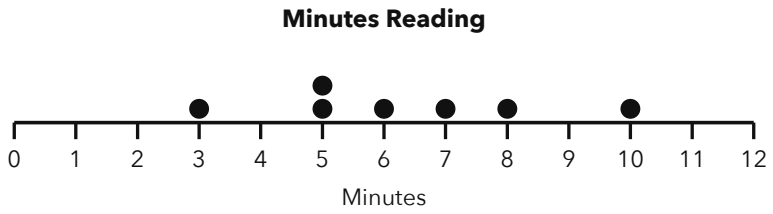
ANSWER _____

6 Find the median of 45, 38, 42, 40, 44, 39, 41.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

1 The dot plot shows how many minutes seven students read after school. What is the median number of minutes read?



ANSWER _____

2 During a reading challenge, eight students read 52, 47, 49, 53, 48, 50, 46, and 51 pages. What is the median number of pages read?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

Two gaming clubs recorded their scores in a tournament. Club A scored 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21. Club B scored 10, 11, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26. Which club has the higher median score? Explain how you know and tell how much higher it is.

WORK SPACE AND ANSWER

ANSWER KEY

Middle Matters

GRADE 5 · 5.PS.2.c

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Find the median of 7, 2, 10, 5, 8.	**7**
2	Find the median of 14, 6, 11, 3.	**8.5**
3	Find the median of 18, 16, 21, 19, 17.	**18**
4	Find the median of 25, 22, 24, 26, 23, 27.	**24.5**
5	A student counted 31, 28, 31, 29, and 30 birds on five mornings. Find the median. Then tell what the median describes.	**30; It describes the middle number of birds counted.**
6	Find the median of 45, 38, 42, 40, 44, 39, 41.	**41**

PART 2 · APPLY IT

1. **6 minutes** Read the values in order from the dot plot: 3, 5, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10. The fourth value, 6, is the median.
2. **49.5 pages** Order the values: 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53. The two middle values are 49 and 50, and their average is 49.5.

CHALLENGE

Club B has the higher median score. Club A's median is 17 and Club B's median is 23, so Club B's median is 6 points higher.

Accept equivalent wording that identifies the median as the middle value after the data are ordered. For the challenge, students should name both medians and the difference of 6.