

Bird Count Data

Read data, compare counts, and plan a bar graph.

3.1.c.i "interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating data organize and represent data in pictographs or bar graphs"

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline sentences that explain how to make or read a bar graph. Circle words that name parts of organized data, such as a title, label, category, or count.

Counting Birds at the Feeder

① During a schoolyard bird count, students watched a feeder for ten minutes each morning. They made one tally every time they saw a bird land. The table shows the totals from Monday. Data are facts or numbers collected during an investigation. A table keeps each bird type and its count in an organized place.

BIRDS LANDING AT THE FEEDER ON MONDAY

Bird type	Number of birds
Robin	6
Sparrow	9
Blue jay	3
Cardinal	5

② A bar graph can show the same kind of data with bars. Each bar stands for one category, such as a type of fruit. The bar height matches the number in that category. A title tells what the graph shows. Labels name the categories and explain what the numbers count.

③ Scientists study a graph by comparing bar heights. Taller bars show larger counts, and shorter bars show smaller counts. To find a difference, subtract the smaller count from the larger one. A graph helps scientists notice patterns, ask new questions, and share results clearly with other people.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What does one tally in the bird count stand for?

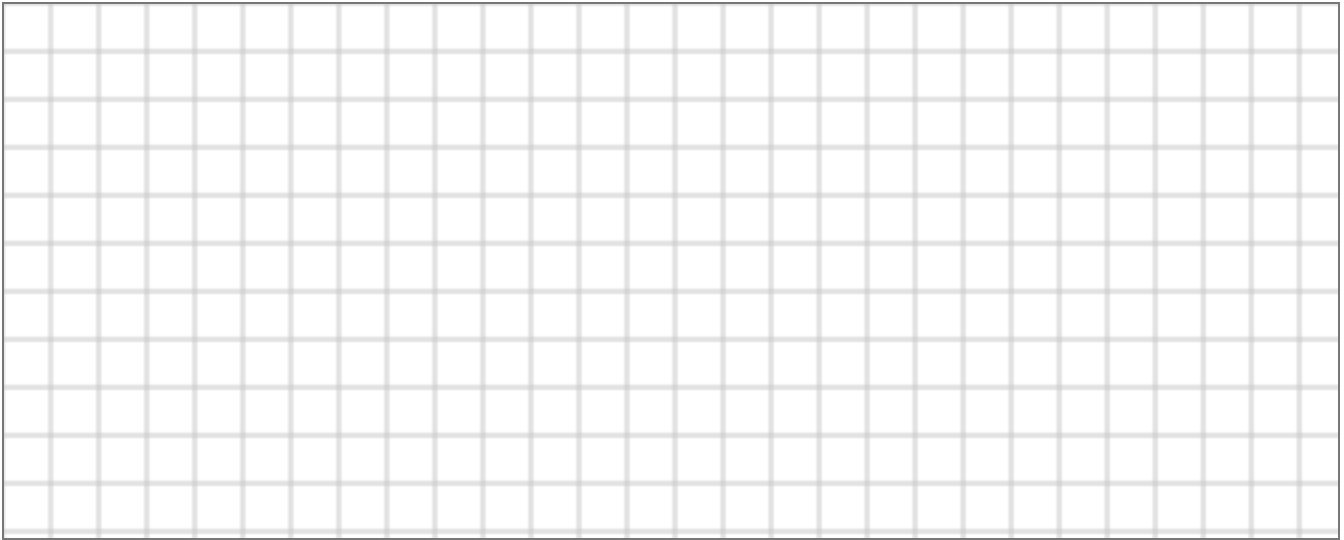
2 Which bird type has the largest count in the table?

3 How many more sparrows than blue jays did students count?

4 If you make a bar graph from the table, which bird type will have a bar that reaches 5?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Use the graph grid to make a bar graph for these small animals found under logs: ants, 4; beetles, 7; worms, 2; spiders, 5. Include a title and labels, then write one sentence telling which animal had the largest count.



PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline sentences that explain how to make or read a bar graph. Circle words that name parts of organized data, such as a title, label, category, or count. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What does one tally in the bird count stand for?	One bird landing at the feeder.
2	Which bird type has the largest count in the table?	Sparrow, with 9 birds.
3	How many more sparrows than blue jays did students count?	6 more sparrows.
4	If you make a bar graph from the table, which bird type will have a bar that reaches 5?	Cardinal.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Title: Small Animals Found Under Logs. Horizontal labels: Ants, Beetles, Worms, Spiders. Vertical label: Number Found, with a scale from 0 to 7 where one square equals 1 animal. Bar heights: ants 4, beetles 7, worms 2, spiders 5. Beetles had the largest count.

Accept any accurate bar graph with four labeled categories, a clear title, a labeled number scale, and bars at 4, 7, 2, and 5. Accept equivalent wording for the sentence identifying beetles as the largest count.