

Dear Family,

During the next few weeks, our math class will be learning about statistics and probability.

We will find the median and mode of data sets and analyze data displayed on bar graphs and line graphs. We will also use probability to make predictions and represent outcomes.

As we learn how to find the median of data sets, you may wish to use this sample as a guide.

## Vocabulary

**mode** The number or numbers that occur most often in a set of data.

**median** The middle number when a set of numbers is arranged in order from least to greatest.

**probability** A measure of the chance that an event will occur in an experiment. A probability can be any number from 0 through 1.

**tree diagram** In probability, a diagram that shows combinations of outcomes of an experiment.

### Finding the Median

Find the median of a data set that has an odd number of numbers.

8, 12, 7, 10, 3, 12, 9

Write the numbers in order from least to greatest. Then find the middle number.

3, 7, 8, **9**, 10, 12, 12

The median is 9.

Find the median of a data set that has an even number of numbers.

13, 16, 11, 18, 10, 16, 14, 15

Write the numbers in order from least to greatest. Then find the two numbers in the middle.

10, 11, 13, **14, 15**, 16, 16, 18

If the middle numbers are the same, the median is that number. If the middle numbers are different, use the number exactly halfway between them as the median.

$14\frac{1}{2}$  is halfway between 14 and 15, so the median is  $14\frac{1}{2}$ .

Learning about statistics and probability will help students evaluate information they see in the real world.

Sincerely,

Your Child's Teacher



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