

Reinforcement

Who Lives There?

Complete this worksheet after you finish reading the section “Analyzing Your Data.”

Imagine that your class wants to survey the plant and bird life in a coastal marsh. The area is large. You have limited time, and there seems to be an unlimited number of plant and bird species. How will you tackle this survey?

Suppose your class splits into six groups, and each group makes observations in a different area. The following table shows the data collected by your class.

ORGANIZING DATA

Marsh Species

Group Name	Total Plant Species	Total Bird Species
Searchers	14	8
Hikers	10	9
Gatherers	8	8
Seekers	10	15
Trekkers	6	4
Hunters	10	8

Your goal will be to compare the observations made by each group, and make an “average” model of the marsh’s plant and bird life.

Reinforcement *continued*

ANALYZING DATA

1. Look at the table. Determine the mean number of plant species. Then, find the mean number of bird species. Round all answers to the closest whole number. Use the space below for your calculations.

2. Now, find the mode of the plant species and the mode of the bird species.

3. What is the median number of plant species? What is the median number of bird species?

APPLYING CONCEPTS

4. Your original goal was to present an “average” picture of plant and bird life in the marsh. Which method of averaging will you use? Explain your answer.
