



The Elf on the Shelf[®]

TEACHER RESOURCE CENTER

Second Grade

The Elf on the Shelf[®] Bar Graph

CC standards: Draw a picture graph and a bar graph (with single-unit scale) to represent a data set with up to four categories. Solve simple put-together, take-apart, and compare problems using information presented in a bar graph.

Materials:

- Starburst candies (one for each student)
- Note from the classroom elf (page 3)
- Construction paper (one sheet of red, orange, pink and yellow hung in each corner of your classroom)
- Data Graph Worksheet (page 4)
- Crayons, markers or colored pencils

Lesson:

Before the students arrive, place a Starburst candy on each student's desk along with the note from your elf.

Cut out the note on page 3 that reads:

You have been good, so I brought you a treat.

First you must sort them, then you can eat.

Listen close to your teacher for all of the rules

'Cause I'm going to tell Santa about you here at school.

Best, _____

As students arrive to class, remind them the elf is watching and brought them a treat, but you have been given instructions for a learning game from Santa that the kids need to play before they can get their treat. The elf will be watching very closely to see what they are learning and how well they are working with others.

Ask the students to identify their "treat."

What color is the candy? Pink, orange, yellow or red?

Tell the students that Santa wants to know how many of each colored candy the elf brought to your class, so they need to group them by color. Then ask each student with a yellow Starburst to stand and walk to the yellow corner where you have previously hung the construction paper. Repeat with each color, sending each student to a color-coded corner that corresponds with his or her candy.

Once the students are in their corners, have them sit in a line. They should place their Starburst in front of them as they sit. Then, the teacher will direct the entire class to focus on each corner one-at-a-time. For example, ask all the children under yellow to stand. Together, the class will identify the category color and then count aloud the number of children (which should equal how many Starburst candies are in each category color.) Remind students the entire time that the elf is watching for the best-behaved students.

As the teacher, record the number of candies in each color-coded group on the board. Use tally marks and then count them to get the total.



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When you are finished, explain to the students how they:

1. Recognized that their candies were four different colors or categories.
2. Sorted the category colors by breaking into groups.
3. Correctly counted the number of colored candy in each category.

Let the students return to their desks with their candy. Now it is time to interpret the data.

Give each child the candy data bar graph worksheet. As a class—the students should use the data collected in the class to provide the following information onto their worksheet:

How many red candies were there?

How many pink candies were there?

How many yellow candies were there?

How many orange candies were there?

Activity/Follow up:

Now ask the students to complete the bar graph worksheet provided on page 4 using the totals collected as a class. You may want to do the first one for them. Also, be sure kids remember to thank the elf for bringing them a treat.

Use this poem as a note from your classroom elf! Print out as many copies you need to provide one for each of your student's desks.

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Solving simple problems using the information in a bar graph.



Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Use the bar graph worksheet to show how many of each colored candy The Elf on the Shelf® brought to your class. Use the color written below to shade in the boxes that equal the total. For example, if the elf brought 3 candies that were red, you should shade 3 red boxes over the word "red."

