Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Families and After-School Providers,

The activities below are related to the mathematics in the data and probability unit *How Long Can You Stand on One Foot?* You can use the activities to enrich your child's mathematical learning experience.

Data in the Media We live in an information-rich society, and it is important for students to begin to experience the variety of ways that information is communicated and represented in the world. Much of the data we read and hear about every day involves comparisons—of everything from automobiles to cold remedies. As you are reading either the newspaper or a magazine, point out various graphs and charts to your child. Talk about how you make sense of the data, what they mean, and why you are interested in them. This is an opportunity for you to show your child how graphs communicate important information to you and your family.

Design a Data Experiment You and your child may also be interested in collecting data by doing an experiment to answer questions such as these:

- How long can people balance a spoon on their nose?
- How long will a coin spin?
- What is the strongest bridge that you can build from only a sheet of paper?

Together with your child, plan the procedure and materials needed for your data collection method. Repeat the experiment ten or more times. Then, organize the data and look at your results. What did you find out? Did anything surprise you? What new ideas do you have for your next experiment?

(continued)

Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

Talking about Likelihood, Chance, and Probability Look and listen for ways probability is being used around you and discuss these situations with your child.

- When the weather reporter on TV or the radio reports a 70 percent chance of rain, will you carry an umbrella that day?

- What is the likelihood of flipping a coin and getting tails? How many times would you expect to get tails if you flipped a coin 20 times in a row? Try it!

- What will happen if you flip a coin 20 times each day for a week? What is the percentage of tails you get each day? If you add up all your trials for the week, what is the percentage of tails?

Math and Literature Here is a suggestion of a children's book that contains relevant mathematical ideas about data and probability. Look for this book at your local library.

Pappas, Theoni. *Math for Kids: & Other People Too!*