



THE ST. LOUIS AMERICAN NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATION

The St. Louis American's award winning NIE program provides newspapers and resources to more than 8,000 teachers and students each week throughout the school year, at no charge.

Questions or comments? Contact Cathy Sewell
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CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT

Lyon Academy at Blow 8th grade teacher Amy Welch, shows students Abdi Abdi, Curtis Gray, T'Darrian Owens and Chase Jones (standing) how to use the newspaper's NIE page to find relevant STEM lessons. Photo by Wiley Price/ St. Louis American.

Teachers, if you are using the St. Louis American's NIE program and would like to nominate your class for a Classroom Spotlight, please email: nie@stlamerican.com.

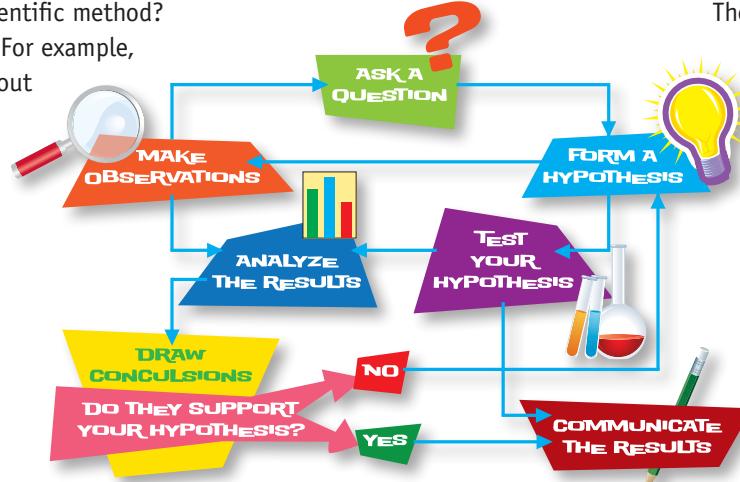


SCIENCE CORNER

Scientific Method!

Have you heard of the scientific method?

It starts with a question. For example, maybe you are curious about how fluorescent light affects plant growth. Next, is background research. You'll look up facts using books and the internet. You can also talk to people who have knowledge about your topic. After research, you'll form a hypothesis. This is where you state what you believe will happen, (ex: Fluorescent lights will negatively impact plant growth).



Then, you'll experiment to test your hypothesis—gathering data and making observations. When it is completed, you will draw conclusions on the results and share what you've learned.

View the Scientific Method Rap Here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wlb7tLJy5AI>.

Learning Standards:

I can read nonfiction text for main idea and supporting details.

Statistics Terms

Bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary field that develops methods and software tools for understanding biological data.

Nonparametric Statistics are statistics not based on parameterized families of probability distributions. They include both descriptive and inferential statistics. The typical parameters are the mean, variance, etc.

SCIENCE INVESTIGATION

RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE?

Background Information:

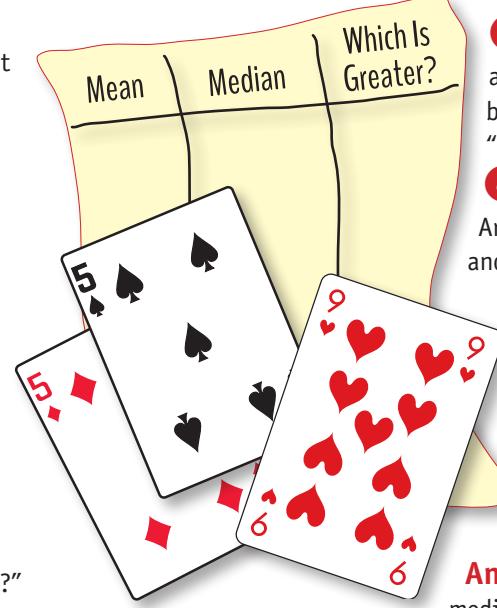
In this activity, you will experiment with "mean" and "median," which are two important math concepts.

Materials Needed:

- Deck of Cards with Face Cards Removed (jacks, queens and kings)
- Paper • Marker • Partner

Process:

- 1 Divide the sheet of white paper into three sections using the marker. Write the word "mean" at the top of the far left column, "median" on top of the center column, and "Which is greater?" on the far right column.
- 2 Shuffle the deck of cards. Hand the cards to your partner and ask them to deal you five cards.



3 Calculate the mean of the cards by adding all five cards together and dividing by five. (Aces=1). Write the answer in the "mean" column.

4 Find the median of the four cards. Arrange them from smallest to largest and find the number in the middle of the sequence. Write the number in the "median" column.

5 Finally, determine which number is greater—the mean or the median—and write that answer in the final column.

6 Continue steps 2-5 until the deck is depleted.

Analyze: What did you learn about mean and median?

Learning Standards: I can follow sequential directions to complete a task. I can analyze results.

MAP CORNER

Use the newspaper to complete the following activities.

Activity One

— **Theme:** Choose one story from each section of the newspaper. Identify the theme of each

story. As a class, compare the various

themes found in each section of the paper, as well as specific details that develop the theme.

Activity Two — Sports

Statistics: Locate sports statistics in the newspaper.

How are they reported? Calculate statistics for your school's sports teams. How do the numbers compare?

Learning Standards:

I can identify theme, calculate statistics, and compare numbers.

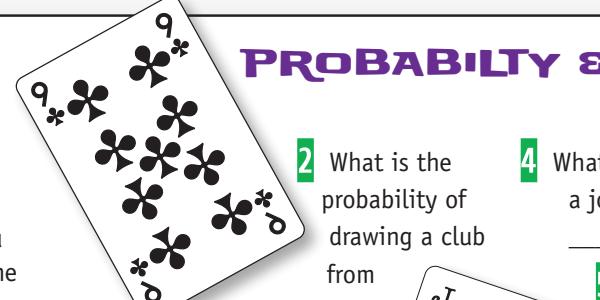
MATH CONNECTION

Probability is the likelihood that an event will occur. For example, there may be a 60% probability for rain storms. For these questions, you will need a deck of cards to determine probability.

Directions:

Determine the probability of each question.

- 1 What is the probability of drawing a red card from a deck of cards?



- 2 What is the probability of drawing a club from a deck of cards?



- 4 What is the probability of drawing a joker from a deck of cards?

- 5 What is the probability of drawing a king from a deck of cards?

Learning Standards:

I can determine probability.



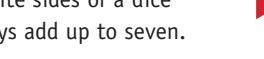
DID YOU KNOW?



The opposite sides of a dice cube always add up to seven.



The world's average school year is 200 days per year. In the US, it is 180 days; in Sweden 170 days, in Japan it is 243 days.



The least used letter in the alphabet is —



The 3 most common languages in the world are Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and English.

Statistics Facts:

This special Newspaper In Education initiative is made possible, and delivered to classrooms, through The St. Louis American Foundation and its NIE Corporate Partners:



World Wide Technology, Inc.

Team	W-L	GP	PCT	PCY	BYRKE
14-2	3	875			
14-3	3.5	867			
15-2	3	833			
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