

Measures of Central Tendency

Background Information:

Students will need to know how to determine mean, median, and range of a set of data.

Materials and Equipment:

Handouts

Notes to Teacher:

- This activity is very open-ended.
 - You will need to ASSIGN the number of yard sale items, consequently, this activity may be used multiple times.
 - It is the intent of this activity that students will need to work backwards to answer the questions.
 - It is the intent of this activity that students will gain a true understanding of mean, median, and range.
 - Students may work alone or in pairs on this activity.
 - The time allotted for this activity varies depending on the ability level of the students.
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Activity Sheet: Measures of Central Tendency

(**NOTE:** Your teacher will need to determine the NUMBER of items that will be available at the yard sale.)

Scenario 1: You have been given the dubious honor of chairing the annual CMS yard sale. One of your duties is to advertise in the Free Lance Star. The ad reads:

CMS YARD SALE

Items range in price from 20 cents to \$4.80.

Median price of items is \$2.10.

Mean price of items is \$2.10.

Explain what this means to a potential customer.

Give an example of a set of prices that fits this scenario.

Scenario 2: You have been given the dubious honor of chairing the annual CMS yard sale. One of your duties is to advertise in the Free Lance Star. The ad reads:

CMS YARD SALE

Items range in price from 20 cents to \$4.80.

Median price of items is \$2.10.

Mean price of items is \$2.20.

Explain what this means to a potential customer.

Give an example of a set of prices that fits this scenario.

Scenario 3: You have been given the dubious honor of chairing the annual CMS yard sale. One of your duties is to advertise in the Free Lance Star. The ad reads:

CMS YARD SALE

Items range in price from 20 cents to \$4.80.

Median price of items is \$2.10.

Mean price of items is \$1.80.

Explain what this means to a potential customer.

Give an example of a set of prices that fits this scenario.