

Time to Roll

3rd Grade

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Benchmarks & Objective:

- SI-5: Record and organize observations using tables, graphs and a journal

Materials:

- Science journals
- Matchbox car
- Cardboard tube from wrapping paper (long roll)
- Stopwatch
- Ruler

Target Concept:

To practice recording observations and data, using data to make graphs and interpreting data using a graph.

Initial Introduction:

You just need to explain that the students should record their observations and make a table and graph from the data collected.

Procedure:

Day One

1. Place the cardboard roll on a book
2. Place the matchbox car at the opening of the roll
3. Release the car and start the stopwatch
4. Stop the stopwatch when the car reaches the other end of the roll
 - a. Record the time and the height above the desk of the roll
5. Insert another book under the roll and repeat steps 2-4
6. Repeat step 5 another 3 more times
7. Have the students make a table on their own
8. Have the students graph the data on their own
9. Draw your own graph (completely labeled) on the board using the students' help
10. Ask the students what they learned by looking at the graph

Target Observations:

- Using tables and graphs to display information makes it easier to interpret data

Final Target Concept:

The students should have gained more practice collecting data and making tables and graphs

Summary & Discussion:

Review that tables and graphs allow scientists to more easily interpret data and make conclusions.