Subject Area: Math

## EALR/Standard:

4.4 E: Mean, median, mode, and range of a set of data

# Activity:

Count leaves on each plant in a small area of the garden and determine the mean, median, mode, and range of the data set.

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## Goals:

Understand mean, median, mode, and range. Determine what each term says about the data set, and in which situations one would be more useful than another.

## Materials:

Area of the garden with a reasonable number of plants with <20 leaves per plant Stakes, flags, or some other method of tagging plants that have been counted

### Procedure:

In the garden, students count and record the number of leaves on each plant in a small area of the garden. Be sure to mark each plant as it is counted in order to keep track of which plants have and have not been counted.

In the classroom, make a figure representing the frequency vs. number of leaves on each plant. Ex.

Assign each group one of the functions (mean, median, mode, range) to determine from the dataset. Then, each group presents their findings and an argument for why their function is or is not useful for this data set. Then, have the class vote for which function is the best representation of the data.

# New vocabulary:

Mean Median Mode Range