

Collecting and Displaying Data

An Assignment

Using the instruments provided, determine the (1) MEAN and (2) MEDIAN lengths of pine needles. There are lots of needles in the room; use your group to decide how many you will measure in order to get an accurate estimate of the mean and median. Before you begin to collect your data, MAKE A PLAN. Determine who will measure the needles. How many? *How* will you measure? What are your units? How many decimal places? How many times will you measure one needle? Use your raw data to (3) create a correctly labeled histogram depicting the distribution of pine needle lengths. It is not likely that any two needles will be exactly the same length, therefore, group your needles into categories of length ranges. Observe your histogram. (4) Is it a normal distribution? (5) What errors were associated with your procedure? Address these two questions on the back of your graph. (6) Be sure all your group members' names are on the graph and submit before the end of class. Grading will include assessing the 6 tasks above as well as neatness and clarity.

