

T E X A S A D U L T E D U C A T I O N S T A N D A R D S
L E S S O N P L A N

Before you begin

Title: *M&Ms* Count!

Setting: ABE/ASE

NRS Level(s): Level 1: Beginning ABE Literacy
Level 2: Beginning Basic Education
Level 3: Low Intermediate Basic Education

Open entry/exit: Yes

Context: Family

Standard(s): Use Math to Solve Problems and Communicate

Benchmark(s): 10.1, 10.2, 10.3

Objective: To learn how to generate data and translate data into a graph

Materials: Small packages of *M&Ms*, paper, pencil, rulers, markers

Estimated time needed to prepare for this lesson plan: 15 minutes

Estimated time needed to complete this lesson plan: 2 hours

The Lesson Plan

Introduce the lesson:

As a class, review the fundamentals of using charts and graphs. Emphasize and give examples of situations in day-to-day activities that reading charts and graphs is necessary.

Teach the lesson:

Carry out the activity according to instructions retrieved from the website provided. The lesson activity will include:

1. Sorting and recording numbers of *M&Ms* by color
2. Creating a pictograph of individual data
3. Combining data as a group and creating a bar graph of new data
4. Combining all data as a class and creating a pie chart

Practice the lesson:

Students individually write a one-page paper that researches the period of years that the makers of *M&Ms* did not make red *M&M* candies. Why did makers of *M&M's* begin including the red candies in the packages again?

Assess the lesson:

Teacher observation and individual feedback of the learning activity and written paper.

Apply the lesson to the real world:

Using a hands-on approach will help students apply the concepts of collecting data, creating a chart, and understanding what it shows. This information could be helpful for students that are using charts and graphs in presentations.

Submitted by: Vicki Heard

Lesson adapted from Karen Stewart's original lesson found at: <http://www.proteacher.com/cgi-bin/outsideite.cgi?id=2140&external=http://ofcn.org/cyber.serv/academy/ace/math/cecmath/cecmath026.html&original=http://www.proteacher.com/100028.shtml&title=M&M%20Graphing%20and%20Probability>