

Circumference- Pumpkin Math

Objective:

Students will estimate and graph the circumference of a pumpkin.

Materials:

A pumpkin, string or yarn, scissors, tape, and three construction paper pumpkins labeled "too long," "too short," and "about right," respectively.

Procedure:

1. Discuss the meaning of circumference and give examples using items found in the classroom (globe, kickball).
2. Tell students they are going to estimate the circumference of the class pumpkin. Tape the three construction paper pumpkins to the board.
3. Pass around the string or yarn, and direct each student to cut off a length they think will fit around the widest part of the pumpkin.
4. After all students have cut a length of string, allow them to take turns checking their estimates by fitting their strings around the pumpkin.
5. Have students tape their string to the appropriate pumpkin (too long, too short, about right).
6. Ask students how many strings were too long? Too short? About right?