Line Graphs

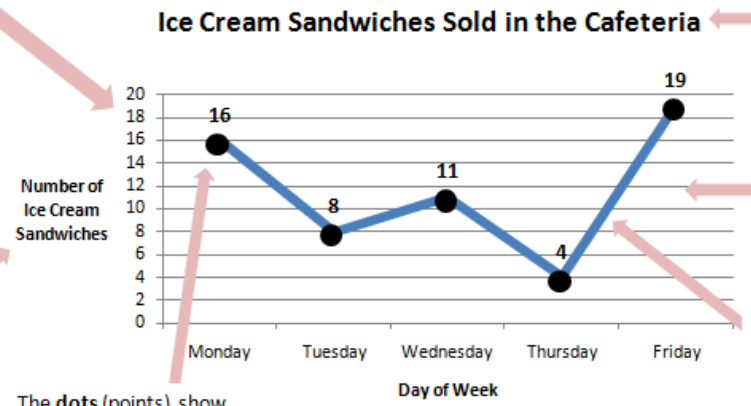
Definitions and Descriptions

A **line graph** is a kind of graph that uses **lines** to show changes in data. A line graph is a tool you can use **to compare data over time.**

The Parts of a Line Graph

This is called the **scale**. The scale shows the **units** in the graph. This scale is on **the y- axis**. They y-axis is also called the **vertical axis**. The **y-axis** has numbers for the amount of stuff being measured. This scale goes from 0 to 20.

This is the **label** for the **y axis**. The y axis tells what is being measured.



The **title** tells what the graph is about.

The background is called the **grid**. The grid helps you read the **units**.

These are called **lines**. The lines connecting the dots help show if the data is going up, down, or staying the same.

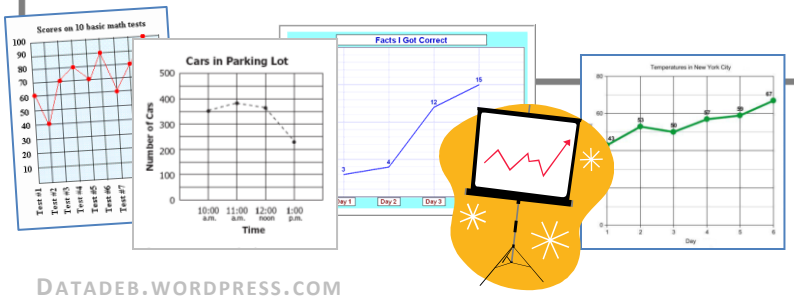
The **dots** (points) show how many. These points give the facts. (There were 16 ice cream sandwiches sold on Monday.)

The **axis labels** tells about the information on the graph. The days of the week are listed on **the x-axis**. The **x-axis** shows things being compared. The x-axis is also called the **horizontal axis**.

A line that goes **up** means an **increase** in the number from one point to the next.

A line that goes **down** means a **decrease** in the number from one point to the next.

A line that stays the **same** means the data is the **same** from one point to the next.



Become a graph master – practice reading graphs and you'll get really good. The more you read the graphs, the easier it becomes.

If someone asks you to **compare data over time**, here are the kinds of things you'll have to know how to do.

- Tell which point shows the most.
- Tell which point shows the least.
- Tell if there is an increase from one point to the next. (The points will be connected by a line that will go up, down, or stay the same.)
- Tell if there is a decrease from one point to the next.
- Add the numbers of two or more points and give the amount.
- Tell how much more one point is than another.
- Tell how much less one point is than another.
- Tell about the trend in the data.

Find the BIGGEST number	Greatest number Greatest amount Highest value Highest amount Higher
Find the SMALLEST number	Least number Least amount Lowest value Lowest amount Smallest amount Lower

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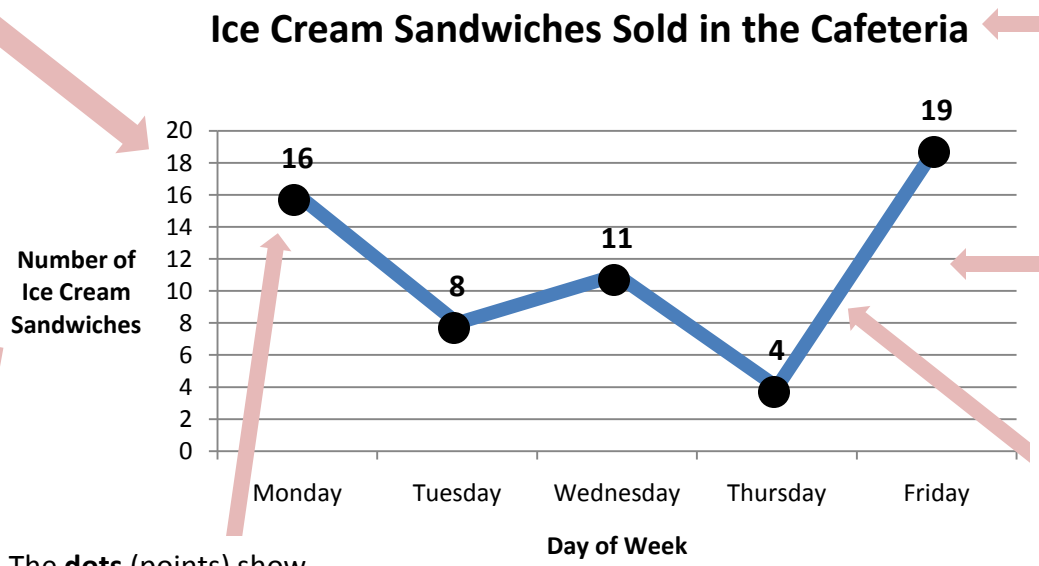

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