

Name _____

Use Sampling to Draw Inferences About Populations

Dear Family,

Your child is analyzing surveys and other studies in which a population is sampled. He or she is learning to identify samples that are representative and to make inferences based on samples. Your child is also comparing sample data by using different types of data displays and measures such as mean, median, and mean absolute deviation.

You can help your child gain fluency with these topics by doing the following activity.

Evaluating Studies

Find an item or article about a recent survey or study. Possible resources are newspapers and magazines, television or radio news, or websites. Discuss the following questions with your child:

- What population is being studied?
- What sample is used to represent the population? Is the sample representative? Why or why not?
- What inferences does the study make about the population? Are the inferences valid? Why or why not?

Observe Your Child

Focus on Mathematical Practices

Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.

Help your child become proficient with this Mathematical Practice. Have your child suggest another way that the study's population could have been sampled, and explain why he or she thinks that method would produce a sample that better represents the population.