

Reading and interpreting bar charts

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The height of each bar shows how many are in that group. Always trace from the top of the bar across to the scale to read the exact number.

- A bar reaching the 8 line shows that 8 pupils chose that answer.
- The tallest bar for football looks big - trace it across and read exactly 12.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

READING THE AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS CHART

- 1 Trace the football bar across to the scale. It reaches exactly **12**.
- 2 The art bar reaches **8**, coding reaches **5** and choir reaches **4**.
- 3 Football is the tallest bar at 12 and choir is the shortest at 4.
- 4 12 is 8 more than 4, so 8 more pupils chose football than choir.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Which was trickier — finding how many more, or finding the total of all the bars?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 7

Q2: 6

Q3: 12

Q4: 29

a) Always — That is the correct way to read any bar height instead of guessing by eye.

b) Always — Tallest means it reaches highest on the scale so it has the biggest value.

c) Never — Different heights always mean different values on the scale.

d) Always — Each bar is one group so their sum is everyone who took part.