

End-of-year review – data, chance and algebra; maths-journal reflection

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The mode is the value that comes up most often in a set of data — the tallest bar or the longest tally row. A box or a letter can stand for a missing number in a sum so both sides balance.

- If most of the class chose hurling, then hurling is the mode of the favourite-sport chart.
- In $\square + 7 = 12$, the box must be 5 so both sides equal 12.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

MODE AND MISSING NUMBER ON THE GAA CHART

- 1 Read the tallies: Football IIIII, Hurling III, Camogie II.
- 2 Football has the longest row so the mode is **Football**.
- 3 Solve the balance $\square + 7 = 12$: the box must be **5** because $5 + 7 = 12$.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT What is one algebra idea you understand better now than in September?

ANSWER KEY

c) 8

Q1: Football

Q2: 5

Q3: 10

Q4: 6

a) **Always** — The mode is always the value that appears most often, shown by the tallest bar.

b) **Always** — The longest tally row shows the most common choice, which is the mode.

c) **Always** — Letters and boxes both hold the unknown value that makes both sides equal.

d) **Never** — Mode means most frequent, not the biggest value.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 11

S2: 6

S3: 8