Data Detectives: Mastering Digital Information

About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Ask your child to create a simple table of the fruit eaten in your house this week to practice data collection.

Use these steps to turn raw numbers into clear information: 1. Collect your data (e.g., counting birds in the park). 2. Choose your format (bar chart, pie chart, or table). 3. Label your axes clearly. Example: If comparing school lunch choices, put the types of lunch on the x-axis and the number of children on the y-axis.

■ What is the difference between a bar chart and a line graph when displaying information?

■ If a table shows the temperature in Manchester every hour, why is a line graph more effective than a pie chart?

■ Explain why it is vital to keep the scale on an axis consistent (e.g., going up in 2s or 5s).

■ Kit the fox recorded 45 fox sightings in spring and 22 in autumn. Calculate the total and the difference.

■ How can you identify an 'outlier' in a data set showing the heights of oak trees in a forest?

Did you know? Did you know? Computers store all data as binary code—a series of zeros and ones! Even the most complex photo or video you see on screen is actually millions of these tiny pieces of data arranged in a specific pattern.

Key vocabulary: Axis · Frequency · Data set · Variable · Trend · Correlation