READ AND INTERPRET GRAPHS

A **graph** is a diagram that shows information in an organized way.

Each **axis** is labeled to identify the data being presented.

There are **several types of graphs** : bar graphs, line graphs, picture graphs, and circle graphs. All serve the same purpose: to organize data.

Graphs show relationships between two numbers and also compare two or more sets of data

Fish caught in Silver Lake

the number of fish caught in 2007. This graph also illustrates a comparison between the kinds of fish that were caught.

The labels on the graph help us read and interpret the graph. We read the facts shown and we also make inferences and draw conclusions as we interpret the meaning of the data presented on the graph.

How to read and interpret graphs:

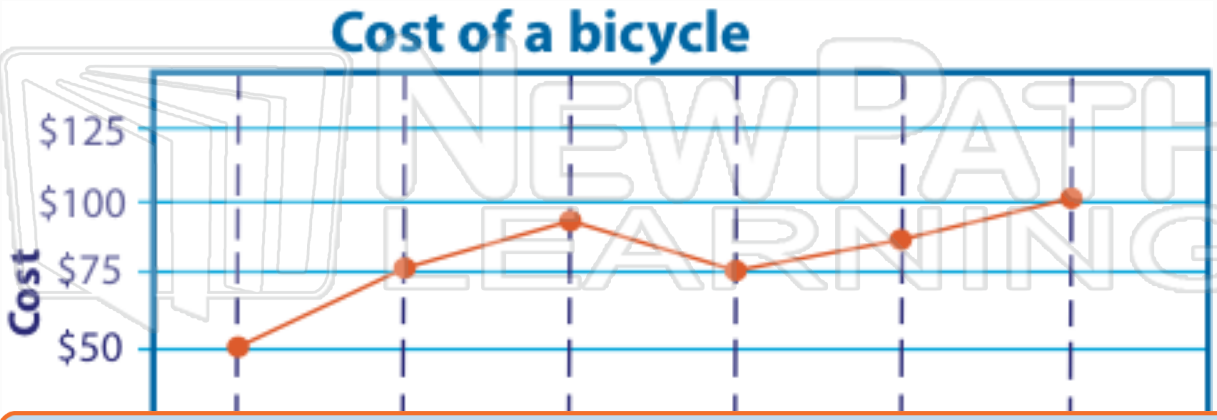
Begin by reading the labels in order to understand what data is being presented.

Use the horizontal axis and the vertical axis to “read” the graph. In the graph #1 above, 60 trout were caught in 2006, 75 perch were caught in 2007, 30 salmon were caught in 2007, and 10 bass were caught in 2007.

By reviewing the graph, you can also interpret the data. This includes making inferences and drawing conclusions. For instance, a conclusion might be more walleye were caught in 2007 than in 2006. An inference might be there were more walleye to catch in 2007.

In the picture graph, the number of fruit needed to make a pie is

In the line graph, the cost of a new bike is compared over 50 years. Line graphs often show trends. In this case, you can conclude that the cost of a new bike has been going up over this time period. You can read the cost of a bike in 1980 was about $75.



infer other things may have cost less at that time.

Graphs offer an organized, visual display of the relationships between different sets of values. The labels on the graph help us read and interpret what is presented.

Try This!

Look at the bar graph above:

Which fish was caught most often in Silver Lake in 2006?

_____

If you wanted to catch salmon would you go to Silver Lake?

_____

Look at the picture graph above:

How many cherries are needed to make a pie?