

Name _____

Finding the Middle: Exploring Measures of Central Tendency

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Measures of central tendency help us understand the "middle" of a dataset by providing a summary of where most of the data lies. This helps us identify typical values and better understand the overall distribution of the data.
2. Finding the mean, median, and mode are important when summarizing data because they provide different perspectives on the central tendency of the dataset, helping us understand its overall characteristics and make informed decisions.
3. One example of when finding the median would be more useful than finding the mean is when dealing with a dataset that contains outliers or extreme values, as the median is less affected by these outliers and provides a more representative measure of central tendency.
4. A dataset might have more than one mode if there are multiple numbers that occur with the same highest frequency, indicating that the data has multiple peaks or clusters.

