Name:_____ Date:_____

Balancing Point

The **balancing point** of a dataset is the point on a number line where the data distribution is balanced.

1. Use the instructions below to find the **balancing point** of the following set of numbers: **2**, **3**, **5**, **6**, **9**.

Instructions:

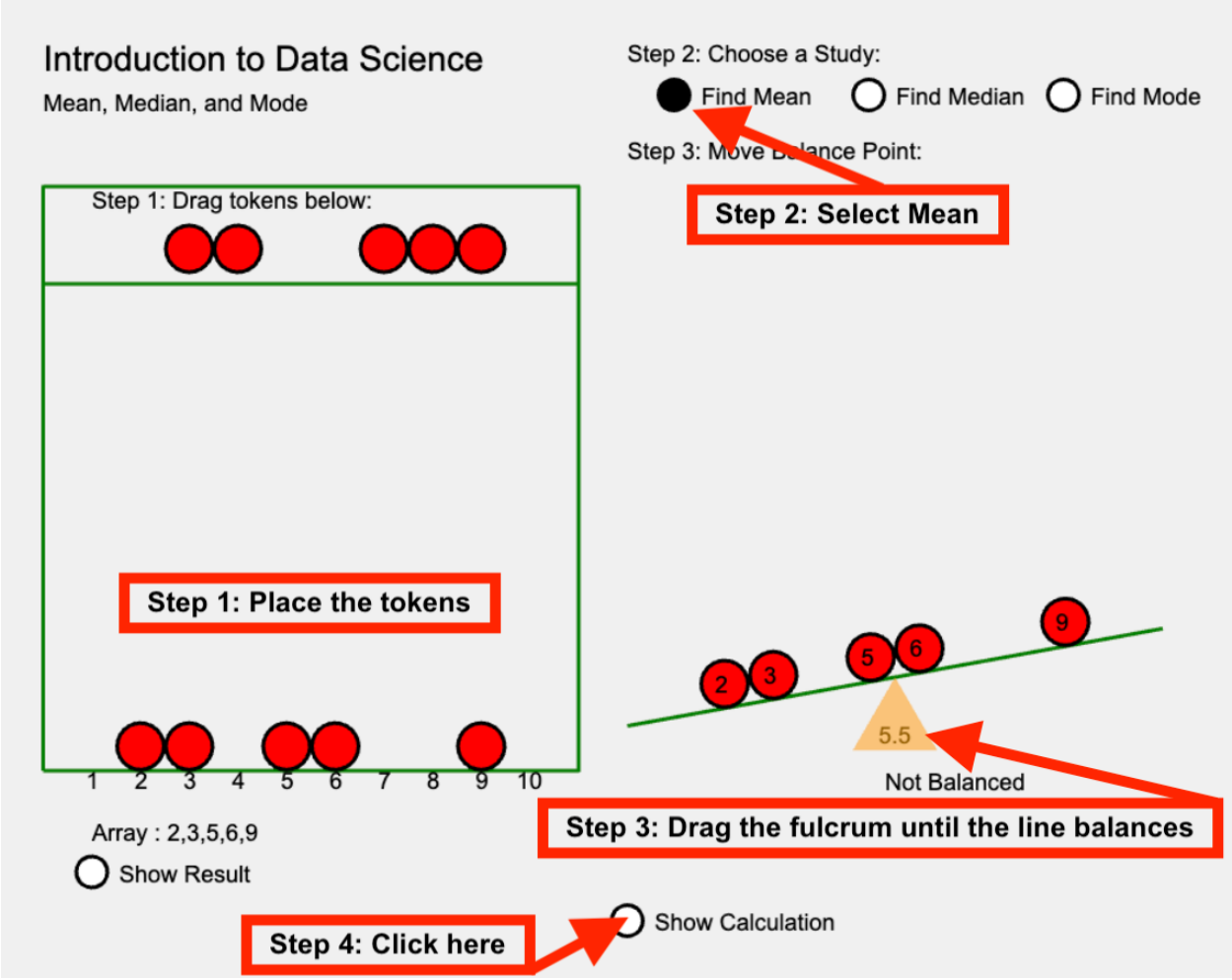
Step 1: Drag a token and place it above each of the numbers in the set (2, 3, 5, 6, 9)

Step 2: Make sure "Find Mean" is selected.

Step 3: Click and drag the yellow triangle (fulcrum) until the green line is balanced (horizontal).

Step 4: Click on "Show Calculation" to have the computer calculate the mean.

What do you notice?



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Balancing Point

2. Answer the following questions:

   a. Use the balancing method to find the mean of each dataset below:

      i. 2, 2, 8, 9, 9

      ii. 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10

      iii. 4, 5, 5, 9, 11, 11

   b. Suppose a line with several tokens is balanced. What happens when you move some of the tokens to the right? To the left? Explain how this affects the mean.

   c. What does the balancing point of a dataset represent? Explain.