

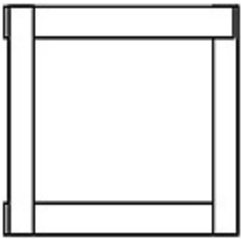
Seashell squares

Annotation

Nina is able to collect her own data (shells) to answer an investigative question posed by her teacher. Nina groups, counts and presents the data using a bar graph. She is able to discuss her findings and use her displays to help answer the investigative question.

Problem: Seashell squares

Room 5 are studying the seashore. During the outdoor education experience, the teacher gives the students a square formed from four rulers taped together:



The teacher asks:

What kinds of shells are commonly found on our local beach?

Choose an area of the beach that contains shells and lay down your square. Gather up all the shells that you find lying inside your square and then sort them into groups. Count the shells to answer this question and present your findings.

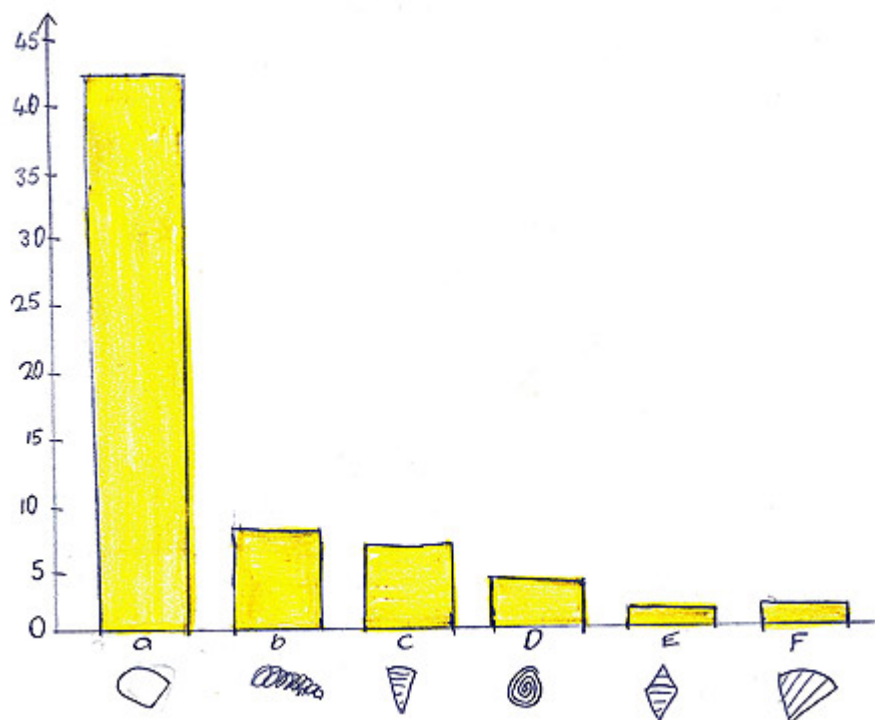
The students returned their shells to the beach after they had gathered their information.

Student Response

Nina's work sample is as follows:



Shells at our beach.



Teacher: Tell me what you did.

Nina: I collected all the shells in my square, and then I put them into groups. I put all the same shells together.

Teacher: What did you do next?

Nina: I counted them. These shells here (pointing to the bivalves) had some that were joined together, so I just counted them as one.

Teacher: What did you do next?

Nina: I made a bar graph. I did a drawing of each kind of shell because I didn't know their names.

Teacher: What did you find out?

Nina: There were heaps of these kinds of shells (pointing to the bivalves). They were everywhere. There were just a few of the other kinds. The pointy ones were quite common, too.