Sequence of activities to develop reasoning about center.

Milestones: Ideas and Concepts	Suggested Activities
1	
INFORMAL IDEAS PRIOR TO FORMAL	
• Idea of center as a typical or representative value for a graph of a variable (e.g., dot).	• Distinguishing Distributions (Lesson 1, Distribution Unit, Chapter 8)
• The mean as somewhere in between the highest and lowest value but not necessarily the middle value or the midpoint of the horizontal scale.	What does the Mean Mean Activity     (Lesson 1: "Reasoning about     Measures of Center")
FORMAL IDEAS OF CENTER	
<ul> <li>Properties of the mean as a balance point and the value for which all deviations from that value sum to zero.</li> </ul>	What does the Mean Mean Activity (Lesson 1)
How the mean is affected by extreme values.	• What does the Mean Mean Activity (Lesson 1)
The median as the middle value in a data set.	• What does the Median Mean Activity (Lesson 1)
<ul> <li>Properties of the median: under what conditions it changes or stays the same.</li> </ul>	What does the Median Mean Activity (Lesson 1)
• Comparing properties of the mean and median.	<ul> <li>Means and Medians Activity (Lesson</li> <li>1)</li> </ul>
The idea of a typical value.	• What is Typical Activity (Lesson 2: "Choosing Appropriate Measures")
<ul> <li>Understanding why and how to use appropriate measures of center for a sample of data for a particular variable.</li> </ul>	Choosing an Appropriate Measure of Center Activity (Lesson 2)
BUILDING ON FORMAL IDEAS OF CENTER IN SUBSEQUENT TOPICS	
How center and spread are used together to compare groups.  The idea and related former in a second to the compare groups.	Activities in Lessons 1, 2, 3 and 4,     Comparing Groups Unit)  What is Named Activity (Lesson 2)
The idea and role of mean in normal distribution.	What is Normal Activity (Lesson 3, Statistical Models Uni)
<ul> <li>Recognize stability of measures of center as sample size increases. When sample grows, see how measure of center predict center of larger population, and how it stabilizes (varies less).</li> </ul>	Sampling activities in Lessons 1, 2, and 3, Samples and Sampling Unit
Role of mean in making inferences.	• Activities in Lessons 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 (Statistical Inference Unit)
• Role of mean in bivariate distribution.	❖ An activity involving fitting and

interpreting the regression line to
bivariate data. (The symbol �
indicates that this activity is not
included in these lessons.)