| | Examples> | | | |
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| Type of question | Life science | Physical science | Earth science | Social studies |
| 1a. A question that compares the variability of 2 or more groups. (i.e. the range, shape of the distribution, and measure of center). | <i>Which type of beak is best suited for eating small seeds?</i> | Which design produces the slowest-falling whirligig? | <i>How do summer temperatures in Bucksport compare with summer temperatures in Greenville?</i> | How do median household incomes in counties in the two congressional districts in Maine compare? |
| 1b. A question that compares a summary value (i.e. the mean, median, or sum) of two or more groups (categories). | <i>What was the average carapace length for male and female crabs?</i> | <i>How did the total kWh used this week by each school compare?</i> | <i>How do the mean temperatures for July 2012 compare between Newport and Bar Harbor?</i> | <i>What is the median income for each Maine county?</i> |
| 2a. A question that asks how (or if) two numeric variables are correlated | <i>Is the amount of sleep humans needs related to age?</i> | <i>Is the weight (mass) of the car related to its fuel efficiency?</i> | <i>Is wind speed of a hurricane related to barometric pressure?</i> | <i>How does the price of a barrel of crude oil relate to the price of regular gas at the pump?</i> |
| 2b. A question that asks how (or if) a numeric variable changes through time. | <i>How has the cardinal population in midcoast Maine changed in the last 20 years?</i> | <i>How does the speed of the car change during it's trip?</i> | <i>Have "white Christmases" become less frequent in Ellsworth over the last 40 years?</i> | <i>How have median incomes in Bangor changed over the last 20 years?</i> |
| 3. A question that asks how a total is proportioned into sub- groups. (or what proportion a sub- group is of a total). | Which species of fish are the most common in Nokomis Pond? | What proportion of salt in sea water is NaCl? | What is the make up of gases in Earth's lower atmosphere? | What proportion of household income in Maine is typically spent on health care costs? |