Model Averages

There are three fourth grade classrooms. On Monday three students were absent from Room 5, two students were absent from Room 6, and one student was absent from Room 7. What was the average number of absences per class?

**Step 1** Use counters to stand for each absent student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RM 5</th>
<th>RM 6</th>
<th>RM 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 2** Rearrange the counters so there is the same number of students absent in each room.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RM 5</th>
<th>RM 6</th>
<th>RM 7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Step 3** Count the number of counters in each column. This is the average.

Solution: The average number of absences per room was 2 students.

Use counters to find the average of the numbers in each group.

1. \(2, 8\)
   
   4

2. \(4, 10\)
   
   7

3. \(5, 7\)
   

4. \(1, 3, 5\)
   
   

5. \(4, 6, 8\)
   
   

6. \(4, 5, 6\)
   
   

7. \(4, 5, 7, 8\)
   
   

8. \(3, 5, 7, 9\)
   
   

9. \(6, 10, 8, 4\)
   
   

10. \(4, 1, 2, 5, 8\)
    
    

11. \(2, 4, 6, 8, 10\)
    
    

12. \(1, 3, 1, 3\)
    
    

13. \(2, 6, 2, 6\)
    
    

14. \(5, 5, 5, 5\)
    
    

15. \(7, 2, 6\)
    
    

Use with text pages 262–263.