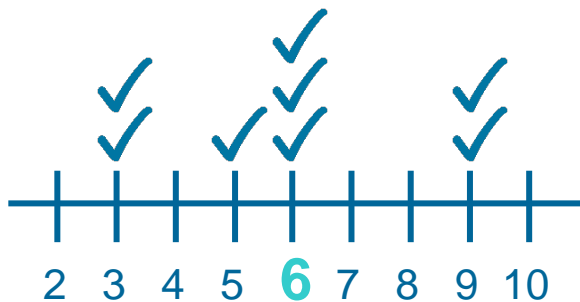# MODE OF DATA SET



## Unit Overview

In this unit, you will find the mode for a set of data.  You will also examine questions with probability, the chance that something will happen.

## Mode of Data Set

The **mode** is the number which appears most often in a set of numbers.

For example, third graders voted on their favorite number between 1 and 9.

Here are their votes: 6, 3, 9, 6, 6, 5, 9, 3



Which number was selected the most? The **6** was selected the most.

How many times was this number represented by the student votes? This vote was selected 3 times.

The **mode** for this set of numbers is 6 because the 6 was selected more times than the other numbers.

# Using a Table to Organize Data

The third graders in Mrs. Collin's classes were selling boxes of cookie dough for their science trip.

| Type of Cookie | Number Sold |
|----------------|-------------|
| Chocolate Chip | 20 |
| Snickerdoodle | 19 |
| Oatmeal Raison | 18 |
| Peanut Butter | 20 |
| M&M's | 20 |
| Chocolate Pecan | 18 |
| Coconut Crunch | 17 |

What is the mode for this table?  The mode is **20**.

How many times did this number occur in the table?  This number occurred 3 times.

The **mode** for the set of numbers in the table is **20** because **20** occurred most often as the number of type of cookies sold.

What was the total number of boxes of cookie dough sold in all?  The third graders of Mrs. Collin's class sold 132 boxes of cookie dough.

# Probability

Probability is the chance that something will happen. Look at the picture of the container of stars. What is the probability of selecting a yellow star?

The probability of selecting a **yellow star** out of the entire container of stars is 4 out of 11. There are 11 stars and 4 of them are yellow. You can also write this as a fraction. The chances of picking a yellow star would be 4/11.

What is the probability of selecting a blue star? The probability of selecting a **blue star** out of the entire container of stars is 3 out of 11. There are 11 stars and 3 of them are blue. The chances of picking a blue star would be 3/11.

What is the probability of selecting a red star?  The probability of selecting a **red star** out of the entire container of stars is 3 out of 11.  There are 11 stars and 3 of them are red.  The chances of picking a red star would be 3/11.

What is the probability of selecting a green star?  The probability of selecting a **green star** out of the entire container of stars is 1 out of 11.  There are 11 stars and 1 of them is green.  The chances of picking a green star would be 1/11.