

Seven Centers with Nineteen Cases

Center One: Plants

Materials: 1/4 sheet of paper for them to draw plants on. Seeds to grow a classroom plant.

Case #1: Provide paper for them to draw pictures of any plants we eat. Graph plants according to what part of the plant we eat, the top or the bottom, or the middle.

Case #2: Provide paper for them to draw a picture of their favorite plant they like to eat. Graph the results.

Case #3: Grow a plant as a class and graph the growth of that plant over a time determined by the class. Compare the growth spurts of the plant over time.

Center two: Animals

Materials: 1/4 sheet of paper for them to draw on.

Case #4: Provide paper for them to draw a picture of their favorite animal. Graph the results.

Case #5: Provide paper to draw one animal they have at their home. Graph results.

Case #6: Provide paper to draw an animal and sort according to how they act in the winter: hibernate, hide, migrate, or stay active.

Center Three: Fantasy/Reality

Materials: A variety of fiction and non-fiction picture books that are related (e.g., the three little pigs, a fact book on pigs).

Case #7: Provide a fiction and non-fiction book about the same subject, for example the three little pigs, a fact book on pigs. Gather clues of information from each book. Compare how they are the same and different using a Venn Diagram. Repeat with other sets of books.

Case #8: Pick a fiction and non-fiction book provided about the same subject, for example the three little pigs, a fact book on pigs. Gather clues of information from each book. Cut a circle into as many pieces as you have facts or clues you have found. Write each clue you have gathered on a separate piece of the pie. Color the real facts red, and the fantasy facts blue. Glue them back on the blank circle grouping them by color. Repeat this with one other topic.

Center Four: School Rules

Materials: A copy of your classroom rules. A copy of your district school rules if applicable. Four Pie Graphs per group doing this center, small Post-it® notes.

Case #9: Provide two pies per group. Have one divided into equal parts for the size of your group. Have them write their favorite rule on one of the pieces of pie. Glue their piece on the blank pie grouped with the same rules by each other. Color each section of the same rules together a different color.

Case #10: Provide two pies per group. Have one divided into equal parts for the size of your group. Have them write rules they see followed the most on their piece of pie. Glue their piece on the blank pie grouped with the same rules by each other. Color each section of the same rules together a different color.

Case #11: Provide small sticky notes with a copy of the class rules. Have the students take two small sticky notes to record data on. Have the students write one rule they see each other keeping on one sticky note, and one rule they see broken often on their other sticky note. Graph the results.

Center Five: Numbers

Materials: Provide a worksheet from your math program that has addition and subtraction problems on it. Two pie graphs per group. Two Pie Graphs per group doing this center, small squares cut from different colors.

Case #12: Using the round data table, have them choose a piece of the circle and color it: Blue if their favorite fraction is $\frac{1}{3}$. Yellow if their favorite fraction is $\frac{1}{2}$. Red if their favorite fraction is $\frac{1}{4}$. Glue it back on the empty circle and compare favorites.

Case #13: Using the worksheet from your school math program count out how many times the numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 were used. Using the same color for one number, glue one square on your graph. For example, if you have seven 5's, glue seven green squares on your graph. Finish gluing to complete graph.

Case #14: Using the worksheet from your school math program count out how many times addition and subtraction were used. Using the same color for addition, and a different color for subtraction, glue one square on your graph for each time they are used. For example, if you have seven addition problems, glue seven squares of one color on your graph. Finish gluing to complete graph.

Center Six: Families

Materials: *Post-it notes*®

Case #15: Take a *Post-it notes*® and write the number of people in you family. Graph results.

Case #16: Take a *Post-it notes*® and write the color of eyes you have in your family. One *Post-it notes*® for each color of eyes represented in your family. Graph results.

Case #17: Take a *Post-it notes*® and write the number of girls and boys you have in your family. One *Post-it notes*® for boys, one *Post-it notes*® for girls. Graph results.

Center Seven: Urban, Suburban, and Rural

Materials: A variety of pictures, toys, animals, stickers to be sorted into urban, suburban, and rural groups. Lunch sacks labeled urban, suburban, and rural.

Case #18: Using the 3 lunch sacks labeled urban, suburban, and rural, sort objects provided by the teacher according to where you would find them.

Case #19: Sort objects into three groups: urban, suburban, and rural. Draw a Venn Diagram comparing urban and suburban with rural. Have them write how they overlap and what is defiantly different.