



# BULLETIN BOARD BAR GRAPH

## OVERVIEW:

Practice a target structure in class discussion by creating a bar graph with students' responses to a question that contains the target structure. To meet Common Core Standards, students must be literate in all forms of media: charts and graphs, cartoons, advertisements, infographs, etc. This activity gives them an opportunity to practice that standard. Additionally, you will make the math teachers at your school happy by asking math questions about the graph using word problems.

## INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Ask a question to students. Ex: What are you afraid of? How many siblings do you have? Where do you want to go on vacation?
2. Have students write or illustrate their answer to the question on a post-it note. If it is an illustration, it can be labeled or not, and it can be a quick sketch or a high quality drawing. It should be done on a fairly small piece of paper (post-it notes work well, or I use quarter-pages) so that the finished product won't be monstrous. You can decide whether you want students to write their names on the post-it or not.
3. Collect the answers from students one at a time and stick them onto a bulletin board, whiteboard, or wall, forming a bar graph as you go: stack all of the spiders on top of each other in one column, the "dark" next to them, and ghosts beside them (these are "fear" examples, if you didn't guess!).
4. If the bar graph is on your board, you can ask students questions about it while they look at it. If not (or if you need your precious board space!), take a picture of it and either project it or print out individual copies. In the picture, you can see a handout that I created using a picture of a graph with information about what natural dangers my students thought that people fear most in Alaska.

