TIPS MATH-MIDDLE GRADES

Dear Family Partner:
In math, we are finding and using averages to discuss some common facts. I hope you enjoy this activity with me. This assignment is due_________________________.

Sincerely,

________________________________________
Student’s signature

I. LOOK THIS OVER: Explain this example to your family partner.

Remember: To find the average (mean) for a set of data:
1) add all of the data;
2) divide by the number of pieces of data; and
3) round to the nearest whole number if necessary.

DATA: 4, 9, 5, 6, 11
ADD: 4 + 9 + 5 + 6 + 11 = 35
5 pieces of data
DIVIDE by Number of Items in Set: 35 ÷ 5 = 7
AVERAGE (MEAN) = 7

II. NOW, TRY THIS: Show your family member how you do this example.

DATA: 7, 13, 23, 3, 17, 9, 12
ADD:
DIVIDE by Number of Items:
AVERAGE (MEAN) =

III. PRACTICE SECTION: Complete these examples on your own. Show your work. Explain one example to your family partner.

1. List the ages of all your family and find the mean age.
   DATA:
   ADD:
   DIVIDE by Number of Items
   AVERAGE (MEAN) = Is your age close to the mean? __________

2. Find the mean shoe size for all of your family (round half sizes up).
   DATA:
   ADD:
   DIVIDE by Number of Items
   AVERAGE (MEAN) = Is your shoe size close to the mean? ______

3. Find the mean height (in inches) of all of your family.
   DATA:
   ADD:
   DIVIDE by Number of Items
   AVERAGE (MEAN) = Is your height close to the mean? ______
People use averages or means to report survey results. Poll four family members or friends. Include at least one family member.

**ASK:** How many hours each day do you work (at school, at a job, or at home)?

**How many hours each night do you sleep?** (Fill in the chart below with your data)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names of people you surveyed</th>
<th>Number of hours of work each day (at school, at a job, or at home)</th>
<th>Number of hours of sleep each day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE (MEAN) =</td>
<td></td>
<td>AVERAGE (MEAN) =</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Find the average (mean) amount of time the people you selected work and sleep each day. **WORK SPACE:**

**ANSWER TO “NOW, TRY THIS”:**

**ADD:** $7 + 13 + 23 + 3 + 17 + 9 + 12 = 84$

**DIVIDE** by Number of Items: $84 ÷ 7 = 12$

**AVERAGE (MEAN) = 12**

**IV. HOME TO SCHOOL COMMUNICATION:**

Dear Parent/Family Partner,

Please give me your reactions to your child’s work on this activity.

Write YES or NO for each statement.

_____ My child understood the homework and was able to complete it.

_____ My child and I enjoyed the activity.

_____ This assignment helped me know what my child is learning in math.

Any other comments: ____________________________

Parent’s signature: