Think together

1 Bella joins the other children. She has only 1 marshmallow.

What is the mean number of marshmallows per child?

Lexi

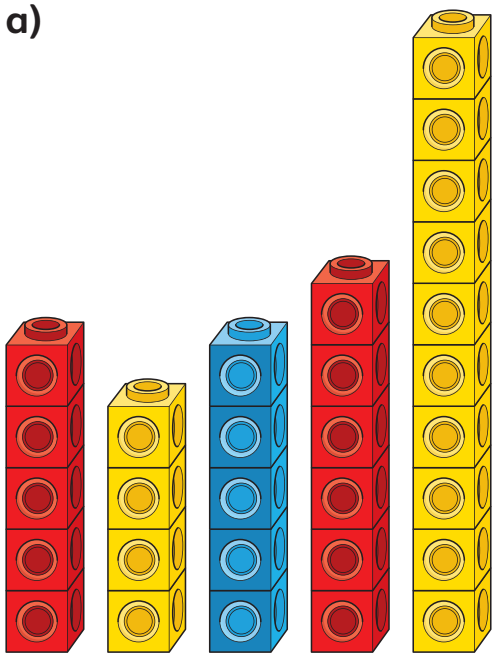
Olivia

Kate

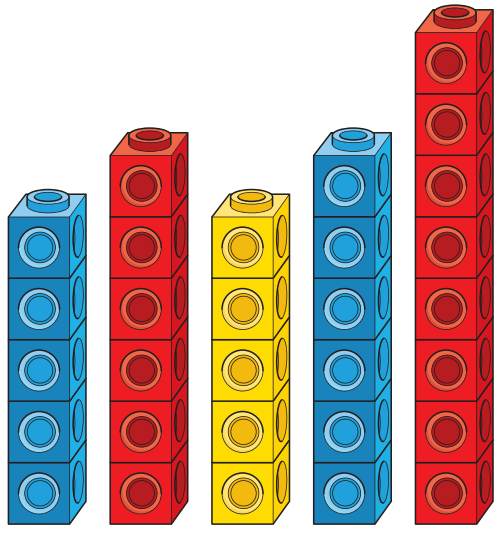
Bella

2 What is the mean number of cubes in each group of towers?

a)



b)

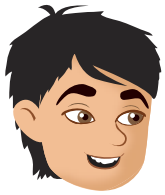


What do you notice? Can you explain?

CHALLENGE

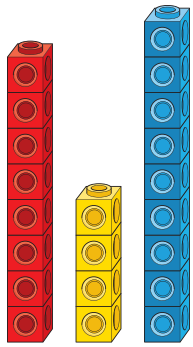
3 Isla and Aki have found the mean of the numbers 8, 4 and 9.

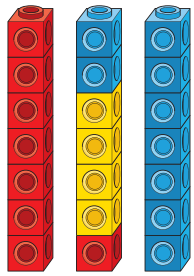
a) Discuss the similarities and differences between their methods. Do they both work all the time?



I made towers and rearranged the cubes to make equal heights.

Aki



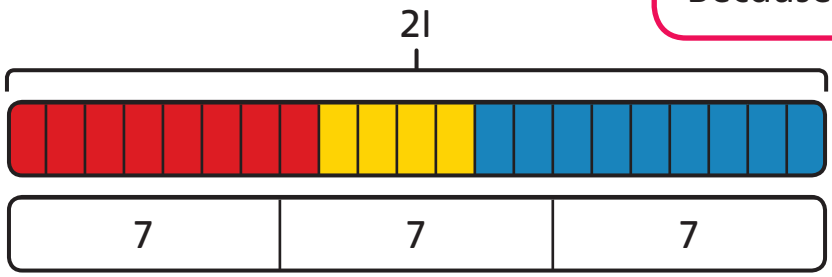


Each new tower is 7 cubes high.

The mean of 8, 4 and 9 is 7.

I worked out the total. I shared this into 3 equal groups because there were 3 numbers.

Isla

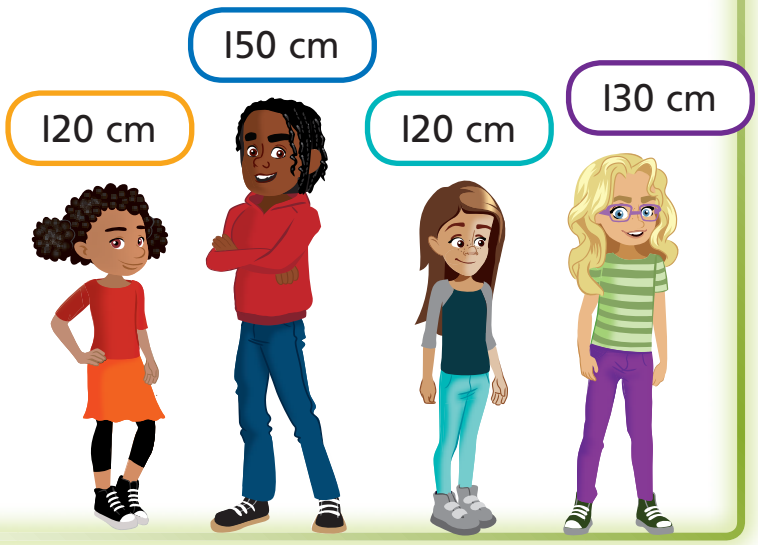


$8 + 4 + 9 = 21$

$21 \div 3 = 7$

The mean of 8, 4 and 9 is 7.

b) Which method would you use to find the mean height of these children? Why?



→ Practice book 6C p90

Answers to Year 6 Week 12 Thursday

ANSWERS

Question 1: 7

Question 2: The mean number of cubes in each set of towers is 6.

Question 3 a): The mean is 7. Both methods work although it is not always possible to rearrange practically for example when not dealing with concrete items or when the numbers involved are large.

Question 3 b): 120 + 150 + 120 + 130 = 520
520 ÷ 4 = 130
Children should discuss the best method to use. Obviously they cannot rearrange the heights, but they can find the total and divide.