



HOW TO READ A GRAPH

Look for what is shown, what the labels mean and what the graph tells you.



THE IDEA

Graphs show information using visuals.

Read graphs by looking at key features, the labels and what the graph shows.



IN THE CLASSROOM

Show different types of graphs (e.g. bar, line, pie).

Model how to read a graph step by step.

Ask students to describe what the graph shows.

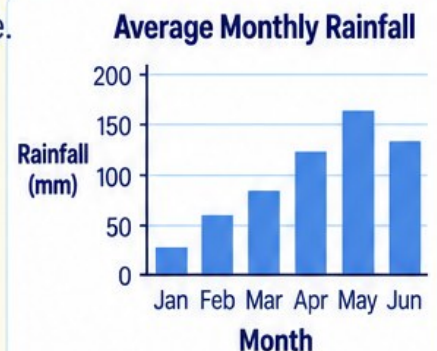
Use the graph information in their answers or writing.

1

IDENTIFY THE KEY FEATURES

Look at the title, labels and scale.

- What is the title?
- What type of graph is it?
- What do the labels show?
- What is the scale?



2

READ THE INFORMATION

Look at what the graph shows.

- What is being compared?
- What are the highest and lowest values?
- What patterns or trends do you see?

This graph shows ...

- The highest value is ...
- The lowest value is ...
- There is an increase or decrease ...
- Overall, it shows ...

3

USE THE GRAPH

Use the information to support your thinking.

- How does the graph support the text?
- What does the graph help you understand that the text does not?
- Can you use numbers from the graph in your answer?



Link to the question or text.



EAL UPGRADE

Learn key vocabulary (e.g. increase, decrease, highest, lowest, trend).



TRY IT TOMORROW

Choose a graph from your subject and ask students to describe what it shows in a few sentences.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

"What is the highest value?"
 "What trend do you see?"
 "How does the graph support the text?"