# MY FAVORITE BIRTHDAY/PARTY PLAN 

Grades K-2

## Skills and Objectives:

- Students will learn about collecting data.
- Students will see how data can be organized and displayed in a simple chart.
- Students will understand how to use data to plan for a class party.


## MY FAVORITE BIRTHDAY

## Suggested Croupings:

Small groups

## Getting Started:

- Explain to students that by taking a census, the government collects information. Students will have a chance to collect information too. The information they collect will be about each student's birthday.


## Using the Activity Worksheet:

1. Distribute copies of the Lesson 5A Activity Worksheet (page 16) to your students.

- Discuss with students the many different ways to celebrate someone's birthday. Ask them to draw and color in a picture of a favorite birthday party, either their own or a celebration they've been to, or one that they can imagine.

2. Take a survey of student birthdays. Explain that a survey is when you ask the same question of many people and then add up their answers. Discuss that the census is a type of survey.

- List the twelve months of the year on the board and, as you go around the room to each student, tally their responses.

3. Use the birthday data that you have collected to create a birthday chart or calendar on a bulletin board or poster board. Have students help by making a symbol (a balloon or birthday candle) to represent each student's birthday.

## Wrapping Up:

- Review the chart you have created with your students. Reinforce how charts make it easier to understand information about a number of different people or things.


## Chalkboard Definition

chart: a drawing, graph, or picture that shows information in a way that makes it easy to understand.

## PARTY PLAN

## Suggested Groupings:

Whole class, individuals

## Getting Started:

- Discuss with students that the census helps us plan what we will need in the future by asking people about their lives today. The art exercise they are about to begin will help the class plan and be ready for an allstudents' birthday party.


## Using the Activity Worksheet:

1. Photocopy and distribute the Lesson 5B Activity Worksheet (page 17) to your class.

- Direct students to color and decorate the party hat according to your instructions. For each of the twelve months, tell those students with birthdays in that month to color and decorate their hat in a particular way (i.e. January birthdays make blue hats with red stars; June birthdays make yellow hats with orange stripes).
- Take a "hat census." Go through the list of twelve different hat designs and tally on the board the number of students that now have each type of hat.


## Wrapping Up:

- Explain that the class will choose one day for a party to celebrate all of the students’ birthdays. You can use the data from the class "hat census" to make real party hats for the celebration. The colors you use will represent all the different months in which students celebrate their birthdays.


Party Plan
Here's a birthday party hat. Your teacher will ask you for your birthday month and then tell you what color your hat should be. Next, use a crayon or marker to color in your hat.

