Eyeball Estimates

ACTIVITY

You need: 3 classmates

Lakisoe and Sara are practising estimation. They record each estimate and how they reached it like this:

Challenge	Method	Estimate
The number of people the school hall will seat	Estimate how many people will fit in 1 row, then picture the number of rows that will fit in the hall. Multiply these two numbers.	20 x 11 = 220 people

1. Write down in your own words what *estimation* means.
    Suggest three reasons why it's important to be able to estimate.

2. Here are some estimation challenges. Working with a classmate, choose three of them and make an estimate for each.
    Write down your methods.

The height of a tall tree in your school grounds

The time it would take you to walk 2 kilometres

The number of students who could fit on half a netball court

The total mass of all the chairs and desks in the classroom

The amount you would drink in a week

The distance from the office door to the classroom door

The height of a 12-storey office block

The time you spend each year tidying your room/doing the dishes

The number of posts (1 metre apart) needed for a fence around the sports ground

The number of words in a 300-page novel

The time it would it take to bounce a ball 2 000 times

The time you spend sleeping in 1 year

3. Discuss your results and methods with another pair of classmates.
    If you've done one of the same challenges, is your estimate similar to theirs?

4. Write two different estimation challenges for a classmate to try.