Unit 4, Lesson 20

Food-Waste Journal

Let's use multiplication and division to think about food waste.

Warm-up

Notice and Wonder: Food Waste

What do you notice? What do you wonder?



Activity 1

Food Waste in the United States

1. About how many pounds of food waste is produced in each of these situations? Explain or show your reasoning.

   a. a person in 1 week

   b. a person in 1 month

   c. your family in 1 year

   d. your class in 1 year

   e. everyone in your school in 1 year

2. There are 16 ounces in a pound. How many ounces of food waste does the average person produce in 1 year?

Activity 2

Food Journal

Complete the table for the food waste you produced today.

name/type	reason thrown away	estimated weight (ounces)

1. About how many pounds of food waste have you produced so far today? Explain or show your reasoning.

2. The average person in the U.S. throws out about 349 pounds of food waste each year. About how many pounds is that each week? Explain or show your reasoning.

3. Do you think the estimate of food waste for the average person in the U.S. for each week is greater than or less than what you actually produce in a week? Explain your reasoning.

Activity 3

Analyze Food Journals

Use your food-waste journal to answer these questions.

1. How many pounds of food waste did you or your family produce in 1 week?

2. If you produce about the same food waste each week as recorded in the food-waste journal, how much would you produce in a month? In a year?

3. The average person produces 349 pounds of food waste per year in the United States. With your partner, discuss reasons for any differences between your data and the national average.