LESSON 120

Making Line Graphs

How do you make a line graph?

A **line graph** is used to show changes in data. Some line graphs show change over time. Others show how one variable changes in response to another.

The data table below shows average monthly high temperatures in an area over a one-year period.

Average Monthly High Temperatures

Month	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Avg. High Temp. (°C)	0	5	12	17	19	20	25	28	22	16	8	2

Steps in making a line graph:

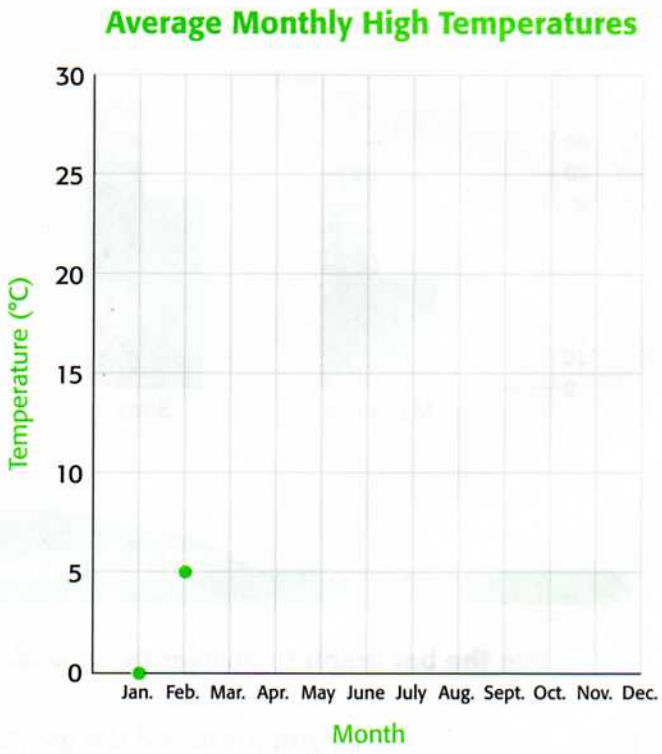
Step 1 Choose a **title** and write it above the graph.

Step 2 Decide what each **axis** of your graph will show. Label the axes.

Step 3 Choose a **scale** for the vertical axis. The temperatures in the data table range from 0°C to 28°C. So your scale should go up to at least 30°C.

Step 4 Write the months of the year at equally spaced points along the horizontal axis. You can use abbreviations for these if you wish.

Step 5 Draw, or **plot**, a point where the lines for January and 0°C meet. Then, plot a point where the lines for February and 5°C meet. Repeat this step for the remaining months.



Show What You Know

Step 6 Plot all the data points for March through December on the graph. Then draw a line to connect all the points from January to December.