



Did you ever think about how long it takes to do things? This activity will give you a chance to think about time.

MATERIALS:

- Watch with a second hand or stopwatch
- Helper to time you

Write down the answers to these questions on a sheet of paper to hand in to your teacher.

1. How long does it take you to get dressed in the morning?
2. How long does it take you to tie your shoes?
3. How long does it take you to brush your teeth?
4. How long does the toaster take to toast a piece of bread?
5. Close your eyes. Have a helper watch the watch. Open your eyes when you think one minute has gone by. How close did you come? Can you practice and come closer? Try 45 seconds. Try 30 seconds.
6. How many times can you blink your eyes in 30 seconds?
7. How many times can you snap your fingers in 15 seconds?
8. How many times can you touch your knee and then your shoulder in 15 seconds?
9. How long can you stand on one foot without holding or touching anything for balance?
10. How many times can you write your name in one minute?

Now it's your turn. Think of ten things people do at school that would be interesting to time. Make up your list. Go around and time people doing these things.

Time people when they don't know you are watching. Then time them while they know they are being watched. Make a record sheet with two columns, one for the people who know they're being watched and one for when they don't know they're being watched. Staple your record sheet to your activity sheet.

Write the answers to these six questions on a sheet of paper to hand in with your activity assignment.

1. Compare your two lists. Did it matter if people knew they were being timed?
2. Which activities showed the greatest difference between the two lists?

3. Which activities showed the least difference?
4. Were there any activities that didn't matter if you watched or not?
5. Which ones?
6. What did you learn about how people use time at school?

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