Mathematics, Algebra I Unit VIII: Lesson 4

Model: Time in the Sun



A sundial is a shadow clock and measures the time of day, while a sun calendar gives the date according to the length of the sun's shadow at noon. Research different types of sundials, including: those on a vertical surface, those with a curved face, the very large, and the very small. Also look up the latitude and longitude for your location.

Design and build a sundial of a unique design that can be placed outdoors. Incorporate a sun calendar into the construction of your sundial so that both the time and date are given. You may need to give instructions for correcting to daylight saving time.

Arrange to place your sundial in an appropriate location. Keep a log of a comparison of your sundial times against actual times. What percent error is consistent with your device?

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