

**SHQ: How do I calculate the mean?**

This week, we will be looking at statistics and finding out how data can be displayed and recorded in different ways.

In our first lesson, we will be looking at calculating the mean average.

Average can mean many different things. One way to think about average is to try to make every group an equal size. This is called finding the mean.

Look at the example below:



Here are three jars of sweets each containing different numbers of sweets.

There are:  
115 bon bons  
135 jelly beans  
50 toffees

Using the 'mean' average, calculate the average number of sweets per jar.

To calculate the mean, you need to add up the **TOTAL** number of sweets in **ALL THREE** jars:

$$115 + 135 + 50 = 300$$

You then need to divide this total by the number of jars that there are:

$$300 \div 3 = 100$$

**So the average number of sweets per jar is 100**

If you were asked to draw three new jars of sweets showing the mean number of sweets per jar, you would draw three jars, each with 100 sweets in them (you would need to mix some of the different types of sweets in the same jar but you would have the same number of sweets in each jar).

You will need to use these methods to calculate the mean average and to draw pictures showing the mean average that you have calculated, in the problems that you will be solving.

Using the information above, have a go at the Power Maths problems on the resource sheet for **worksheet 6**. If you want a challenge, try **Questions 5 and 6**.

When you have completed the questions you are going to try, look back over your work and try the 'reflect' question at the end. The answers for all the questions can be found in the Week 9 Maths Answers resource