Dear Families:

Today, the children conducted a classroom survey to determine who has pets and who does not. If the children did have pets, we collected data about the kinds of pets they had.

Children collect data every day. They notice who is wearing pink sparkly shoes and they find out who is playing what game in the yard. Children are interested in collecting data, especially if the topic is important to them⎯such as finding out their classmates’ favorite colors.

Data collection is an important part of mathematical inquiry. By finding out how many children at a party want vanilla ice cream or chocolate ice cream, children are collecting data and applying that knowledge to real-life scenarios. These scenarios become more complex as their mathematical awareness increases.

You can reinforce this lesson by collecting data with your child at home.

Happy data collecting!