Data: Making Line Plots

How can line plots show data you have collected?

Miss Vega recorded the length of nails in her toolbox. How can she make a line plot to show these lengths?

Length of Miss Vega's Nails (Inches)

34, 1, 1½, 2 ¼, 1, 1 ¾, 1 ½, 1 ¼, ¾, 1 ½, 2 ¼, 1 ½, ¾, 1

What information is given in the table? The length of each of Miss Vega's nails.

Why might Miss Vega want to organize and display the data in a line plot instead of a table? To look for patterns, to see which lengths of nails occur most often or least often, to see what she has the most of.

Steps to make a line plot:

- 1. Draw a line and choose a scale based on the lengths in the table. The scale should show the data values from least to greatest.
- 2. Write a title for the line plot.
- 3. Mark an X for each length.

Title: Length of Miss Vega's Nails

			X				
X			X				
X	X		X			X	
X	x	x	X	x		X	
3/4	1	1 1/4	1 ½	1 ¾	2	2 1/4	

Miss Vega can follow these steps to make a line plot. The line plot shows the length of her nails.