Data: Solving Problems Involving Line Plots

• How can you use line plots to solve problems?

The results of a catch-and-release salmon fishing contest are shown in the chart at the right. What length of fish was caught most often? What is the difference between the longest and shortest lengths?

Fish Length in Inches	
24, 25, 26, 25, 23, 22 22, 21, 25, 25, 24, 22 22, 27, 25, 24, 22, 28 22, 25, 21	

First, make a line plot to show the data. Remember a line plot shows data along a number line.

	Fish	Leng	th S	almo	n Coi	ntest			
		311011	,						
	Х								
	37			37					
	X			X					
	X			X					
	Х		Х	Х					
x	x		x	x					
Λ	Λ		Λ	Λ					
Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		
21	22	23	21	25	26	27	28		
- 1		-0	-4	-5	20	-/	-0		

Next, use the line plot to solve the problems.

The most Xs are for 22 in. This is the length of the fish caught most often in the contest.

Longest fish: 28 in. Shortest fish: 21 in.

28 - 21 = 7in. The difference between the longest fish and the shortest fish is 7 inches.