

# MATH AT WORK ACTIVITY



## MEDAL FUNCTIONS

**Materials:** Internet access

**Number of students:** 2 or more

**Time needed:** 25 minutes

The Olympic® and Paralympic™ Games are a time where the entire world comes together. So how do the countries measure up in medals?

### 1 SELECT YOUR INPUTS

Start with what part of the world you wish to investigate. Large countries? Small countries? Countries of Europe? Create a list of countries that interest you.

### 2 RESEARCH YOUR OUTPUTS

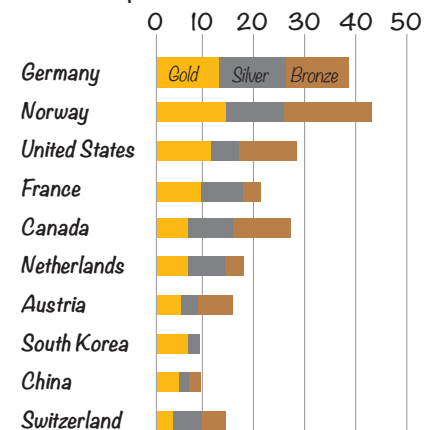
Decide what medal information you want to research. How many medals each country won? Gold medals only? Medals in the last 10 years? Medals for a specific sport? Research the actual numbers online.

### 3 ILLUSTRATE YOUR DATA

Your research describes a **function** where each country has a unique number of medals. Create a table or graph that illustrates your function. Share your illustration with a classmate.

A function is a relationship that connects every input from a set to exactly one output.

Medals for Sport in 2008



1. What information does your illustration reveal?
2. What information does your classmate's illustration reveal?
3. What sort of news story or article might use each of the illustrations, and why?

To learn more about math in sports, visit [hmhco.com/mathatwork](http://hmhco.com/mathatwork).