Desmos’ Make It Balance

This task was used to demonstrate the ways that teachers can use mathematics actions technologies to provide a way for all students to enter a problem, mediate mathematical discussions, and support the development of informal and powerful ways of thinking. In this task, students place bears on a balance to develop an understanding of the mean as a balance point.

Introduction to the Mean

This task was used to demonstrate a procedural use of technology (in contrast to the example above). Students were not able to interact with the technology to explore the mathematical ideas (i.e., no math action tools were used in the activity).

