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INQUIRY SKILL FOCUS Practice

Create Circle Graphs

To complete this activity, you will need a compass and a protractor. Use those tools to answer Question 1 on a separate sheet of paper. Answer the remaining questions in the spaces below.

A middle school class surveyed 500 families who own pets. The data table below shows what kinds of pets the families own. Create a circle graph to display the data.

Kinds of Pets Owned by Families		
Pet	Number of Families	
Dogs	180	
Cats	160	
Birds	25	
Fish	25	
*Other	110	

^{*} Includes gerbils, hamsters, rabbits, guinea pigs, and ferrets

1.	Make a circle graph to display the data in this table. (<i>Hint</i> : You can round off numbers if you wish.)
2.	What are some facts you can learn by examining the graph?
3.	Think It Over Think about the process of creating a circle graph. Why might circle graphs be a less exact way of displaying data than bar graphs?