

Name: _____

Reaction Lab:

Background: Reaction time is the amount of time that passes between your awareness of a stimulus and your response to it.

Procedure:

In this activity you will test your reaction rate by using a metric ruler.

1. Hold your arm straight out from your body with your hand open.
2. Have a partner hold a ruler just above the top of your hand.
3. They will then release the ruler at random and once you see it has been released, close your hand.
4. Record how many centimeters it took for you to catch the ruler (mark centimeters from your thumb and forefinger).
5. Do this 10 times each recording the centimeters each time.
6. Once you are finished, record the average reaction time for each person.

Conclusion:

1. Record your results in a data table for you and your partners. List each of the reactions in centimeters for each of the 10 tests and the average reaction rate. (5 pts)
2. Place your data and your partner's data in a line graph with a different colored line for each different person. (10 pts) Bar graphs will result in no points.
3. Using the data written on the board, make a line graph comparing average reaction times for males and females. (10 pts)
4. If there was a difference in your reaction times during the 10 tests, explain why that is so. (2 pts)
5. Did your reaction rate improve the more you did it? Explain why it did or did not. (3 pts)
6. Design an experiment that would test a person's reaction rate for some activity and show how repeated tries would increase the person's reaction. Make sure to include all materials that will be needed and the procedure that must be followed. (10 pts)