## Enrich

## **Graphs and Decision Making**

Just as important as knowing how to make a graph, is deciding what type of graph to use. Here are some guidelines to help you make that decision.

- A **bar graph** compares data that fall into distinct categories, such as the populations of several cities compare in one year.
- A **line graph** shows changes in data over a period of time, such as the population of one city changing over several years.
- A histogram uses bars to represent the frequency of numerical data organized in intervals.

## Would you use a bar graph, line graph, or histogram to show these data?

- 1. average temperatures in Sacramento for each month of the year
- 2. land area of continents
- 3. number of CD players purchased each year from 1999 through 2005

6.

**4.** number of babies that weighed between 5 lb and 5 lb 15 oz, 6 lb and 6 lb 15 oz, 7 lb and 7 lb 15 oz, 8 lb and 8 lb 15 oz, or 9 lb and 9 lb 15 oz

## Make an appropriate graph for each set of data.

5.

Taxis in Use		
Year	Number	
	(in millions)	
2001	142	
2002	148	
2003	152	
2004	154	

Aircraft Capacity		
Model	Number of	
	Seats	
B747	405	
DC-10	288	
L-1011	296	
MD-80	142	

7.

Video Games Owned		
Number of Games	Number of Students	
0-2	5	
3–5	4	
6–8	9	
9–11	6	