

5-Lab B Don Gorske -He's Ronald's Hero and Mine Too Name _____

Fond du Lac, Wisconsin is lucky to have a native son as famous as Don Gorske. Back in May of 1972, the Fond du Lac, WI McDonalds offered Big Macs for the first time. Don ate one and liked it. He liked it a lot, so he bought another, and another, and another...

He would throw the empty cardboard containers in the back of his car when he was done with them. After one month, even his buddy wouldn't ride with him because of the awful aroma. As Don was emptying the old containers from the car, he realized **he had eaten 265 in only one month!**

Mentally estimate how many he averaged per day. Remember, we are dividing by 30 days, so round the 265 to a compatible number. = _____

How could anyone eat nine a day without getting sick of them? Since then he has continued to eat Big Macs virtually every day for over thirty-five years. Don keeps a record of every one he has eaten since that first month, although now he usually eats "only" two per day. Since 1972 he has eaten at least one Big Mac every day with the exception of only eight days! In May of 2018 he ate his **30,000th Big Mac** at the Fond du Lac McDonalds. He still believes Big Macs are the world's greatest food!

Your job in this lab is to find how many: **cattle, heads of lettuce, pounds of cheese, gallons of special sauce, pickles, onions, and sesame seeds** Don has eaten.

Here are the jobs that need to be done and you will decide how to divide them up. **Put your name by the job(s) you will do.** Each person in your group must help out:

_____ Contact a butcher to find how many **pounds of hamburger** they get out of an average "head" of beef.
Whom did you call? _____

What was the average number of pounds? _____

_____ Experiment to find how many slices can be made from one "average" pickle.

How many pickles did you use? _____ Average # of slices? _____

_____ Go to a grocery store and find the weight of several heads of lettuce and onions. **The more you weigh**, the more accurate you will be.

_____ heads of lettuce = _____ total weight; _____ # onions = _____ total weight

_____ Take a field trip to McDonald's and **count** sesame seeds on Big Mac buns to get the average number of seeds per bun.

_____ Visit, or call, McDonald's and ask the manager for the following information:
Be thoughtful and do it during times when it is **not** their busiest time.

What does each of the patties of beef weigh? How many are used? _____

How much does the lettuce weigh? _____

How much does the cheese weigh and how many slices are used? _____

How many ounces of special sauce are used on Big Macs? _____

How much do the onions weigh? _____

How many pickles are on a Big Mac? _____

- This lab will focus on:
- a) using your estimation skills (**no calculators allowed**)
 - b) choosing a **reasonable range** for your answers, and
 - c) your communication skills. That means you need to spell words correctly, use proper punctuation, and check the content of your sentences.

Write sentences which **clearly explain how and where your information was gathered**. Here is **an example** of the start of a possible response:

Mike R. called Eden Meat Market and talked to their butcher. The butcher said it was hard to exactly come up with an average weight for a head of beef, but he did tell him that it could vary between 200 and 300 pounds. We decided to use 225 pounds because.....

- 1 a) First explain where you got **both pieces of data** to find how many cattle he has eaten. **Follow the above example.**

- b) Write the "exact" numbers in the label method work. **First round when you gather them.** Use your estimation skills. No calculators allowed on this lab.

- c) Of course, cattle vary in size, so there is no way to tell **exactly** how many heads of beef he's eaten. Which of your two pieces of data do you feel is the weakest? _____
Tell me why.

- d) Good data gives accurate answers and your data is not precise. Determine a final range for your answer, one that indicates the number of cattle that you are confident he's eaten. I think Don has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ head of cattle.

- 2) Now it is time to find the number of **heads of lettuce** he has eaten. Again first explain where you got your data from and then show the math work below. (Do not forget to subtract some weight for the discarded outer leaves and the cores. Tell me what your estimate of this part was and why you chose it.)

Write the "exact" numbers as you start the label method. **When you gather**, you can round them to the nearest whole number to estimate the answer.

I believe Don has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ heads of lettuce.

Remember: use your estimation skills. No calculator, please.

- 3) Again, use your best communication skills to explain where you found your **two pieces** of data about how many **onions** he has eaten.

Write the "exact" numbers as you start the label method. **When you gather**, you can round them to estimate the answer.

I am confident that Don has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ onions.

- 4) How many **pickles** did he munch down with his Big Macs?

Write the "exact" numbers as you start the label method. **When you gather**, you can round them to estimate the answer.

I am sure Mr. Gorske has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ pickles.

- 5) How many **pounds of cheese** did he eat?
Again, write well, as you explain about the two pieces of "cheese" data.

Remember, "exact" numbers first and round when you gather.

I believe Don has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ pounds of cheese.
(Since each slice of cheese is probably very close in size, this answer probably will not vary much.)

- 6) Explain where you found your data about how many **gallons** of **special sauce** he has “slurped” with his Big Macs.

Remember, "exact" numbers first and round when you gather.

I am sure Don has “slurped” from _____ to _____ gallons of special sauce.
Someone get a stomach pump.

- 7) How did you figure out how many **sesame seeds** Mr. Gorske has eaten?

Remember, "exact" numbers first and round when you gather.

I think "his highness" has eaten anywhere from _____ to _____ sesame seeds,
and that is an unbelievable number.

- 8 a) Out of all your answers, which one do you feel is the closest to what Don has actually eaten?

Beef lettuce onions pickles cheese sauce sesame seeds

- b) Clearly explain why you feel that way.

- 9 a) Out of all your answers, which one do you feel is the worst?

Beef lettuce onions pickles cheese sauce sesame seeds

- b) Why?