

# Average Speed Activity

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## INSTRUCTIONS

- You may work in pairs or alone.
- Either choose your previous class or your next class as the destination (if there are two of you - choose one of you to do this.)
- Use the trundle wheel to measure the distance traveled from door to door.
- Time it as you move.
- Calculate the average speed of your trip.

$$\text{average speed} = \frac{\text{distance traveled}}{\text{time}}$$

left or right doesn't matter for distance traveled

Destination room	Distance Travelled	Time	Average Speed

## QUESTIONS

1. What if you had stopped to talk to someone along the way, and because of that ended up taking more time to get to class. Circle what happened below:

- (a) Distance travelled: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (b) Time: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (c) Average Speed: GREATER - LESS - SAME.

2. What if you realized partway that you were supposed to go to another class farther away. You run so that you make it there still at the same time as before. Circle what happened below:

- (a) Distance travelled: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (b) Time: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (c) Average Speed: GREATER - LESS - SAME.

3. What if you had stopped to talk to someone along the way, but then ran so that you could get to your destination still at the same time as before. Circle what happened below:

- (a) Distance travelled: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (b) Time: GREATER - LESS - SAME.
- (c) Average Speed: GREATER - LESS - SAME.

4. Based on your answer to #3, if you are just told what the average speed for a trip is, what details won't you know?

## INSTRUCTIONS

- Calculate the average speed for each trip below.

- For the last row, choose a city and look up the travel time on google maps.

- Answer the questions.

$$\text{average speed} = \frac{\text{distance traveled}}{\text{time}}$$

left or right doesn't matter for distance traveled

	Trip from UMAHS to	Distance Travelled	Time	Average Speed
A	Los Angeles, CA	2,694 mi	39 hrs	
B	Orlando, FL	997 mi	40 hrs	
C	New Orleans, LA	1,227 mi	18 hrs	
D	Washington, DC	143 mi	3 hrs	
E	New York City, NY	106 mi	3 hrs	
F				

## QUESTIONS

1. Which trips do you think were definitely driven straight through with minimal stopping? How do you know?

2. Which trips do you think involved overnight hotel stays? How do you know?

3. Which trips do you think involved heavy traffic? How do you know?

4. Why would it be difficult to say whether any of the trips involved stops for gas or bathroom stops?