## Can I interpret what the sectors in a pie chart represent? <br> Teaching guidance

## Key vocabulary

data, information, survey, questionnaire, graph, chart, division, sector, label, title, pie chart, interpret, describe, explain

## Models and images

Compare the information shown within two related pie charts to emphasise that each sector represents a proportion of the whole.


Compare the information shown within two related pie charts that are different sizes.


## Teaching tips

- Explore a range of pie charts to help children to understand that each sector on a pie chart represents a proportion of a whole set.
- When interpreting pie charts, emphasise that the total number of items represented by the pie chart has to be known in order to calculate how many each sector represents.
- Ensure children encounter a range of charts, including pairs of pie charts that represent different total numbers (such as the TV programme example above).
- Encourage children to annotate the charts and to use tracing paper, where appropriate, to compare different sections.
- Make sure that children have experience of interpreting pie charts with an 'empty' category.

- Model how to provide structured explanations for conclusions you are drawing from pie charts.
- Use pie charts as contexts when finding fractions of numbers and quantities. Ask, for example: 'Roughly what fraction is the "lost" sector on the netball chart? If the chart represents 30 games, how many were lost?'

