

Shakin' Up The World

- Examining Earthquakes

Name: _____ Date: _____

Earthquakes are measured on what is known as the **Richter Scale** (a logarithmic scale used to measure the magnitude of earthquakes). A sample of data on the magnitude of Canadian earthquakes between 1960 and 1965 is given in the chart below.

5.0	5.0	6.4	5.0	6.0	5.6	6.5	6.5	5.0	5.5
6.4	7.2	5.0	5.7	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.7
5.0	7.0	5.5	5.2	4.6	6.3	7.2	6.0	5.4	5.8
6.0	5.7	6.5	5.0	5.7	5.0	5.6	6.0	5.6	6.2

Source: United States Geological Survey, National Earthquake Information Center

In order to better analyze the data in the table, it is useful to create a **histogram of the data.*

PART A: By hand

1. Create a frequency table and plot a histogram to represent this data.
2. Write a paragraph clearly describing the distribution of earthquakes between 1960 and 1965.

PART B: Using Technology

1. Plot a histogram of the data using technology

Interactivate Online Software: Histograms

<http://www.shodor.org/interactivate/activities/Histogram/>

<http://bit.ly/1nnGtqt>



Using the online software...

