



## Data, Data Everywhere -- You're on a QUEST!

There are many organizations collecting data near you at this very moment. Many stores collect data regularly through remote cameras. Ski mountains collect temperature readings to produce the best snow. Highway departments will often collect traffic data with counters on the pavement. This activity will help you identify areas in your community where collecting data is essential to our very lives!

**Materials needed**

- Computer with Internet access
- Pen and paper for notes
- Local map showing mountains, foothills, roads and highways(optional)

### Investigate with your family!

■ What technology does your family use on a daily basis?

How does your family collect data (e.g., via phone, computer, newspaper, etc.)? What other types of information might your family rely on to live on a daily basis?

Many state offices use Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Here is a list of helpful GIS Web sites:

- Maine Office of GIS:** <http://apollo.ogis.state.me.us/>  
**New Hampshire GRANIT:** <http://www.granit.sr.unh.edu>  
**Vermont Geographic Information System:** <http://www.vcgi.org>

Walk or take a drive with your family through your neighborhood or town. Try to identify the number of ways in which people are collecting data remotely.

Organization/Business	Type of Data Gathered	Measurement Tool

If there were a natural disaster in your area, what might emergency planners need to evaluate the conditions in your neighborhood or town? Consider the type of roads (gravel or paved) number of fire stations and emergency vehicles, and the distance it takes for emergency vehicles to get to your area. Interview city planners and emergency planners in your town to get their perspective on the information they would need to assist in such an emergency.

Make notes of what you find:

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## Electronic Quest!

You'll find a load of information from these sites on remote sensing and collecting data to protect our environment, track our weather, natural resources data, and read an article about a project in Burgundy, France that applies remote sensing to an archeological research!

### U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geographic Information Systems

<http://info.er.usgs.gov/research/gis/title.html>

### GIS Resources on the Web

[http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/~pbcote/GIS/web\\_resources.html](http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/~pbcote/GIS/web_resources.html)

### NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

<http://southport.jpl.nasa.gov/>

### GIS and Remote Sensing for Archeology: Burgundy, France

<http://www.informatics.org/france/france.html>



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