Describing and Summarizing Data (page 1 of 2)

Number of States Visited

Becky shared her data with her class.

The teacher asked, *"What can you say about the number of states visited by students in our class?"*

Here are some of the students' responses:

Gina noticed the lowest and highest values in this data set.

Gina: *The data range from 1 state to 14 states. No one in our class visited fewer than 1 state and no one visited more than 14 states.*

Kenji found an interval where most of the data are concentrated.

Kenji: *More than half of the class visited between 1 state and 3 states.*

Pilar noticed the mode in this data set.

Pilar: *More people visited 3 states than any other number of states.*

The mode is the value that occurs most often in a set of data.

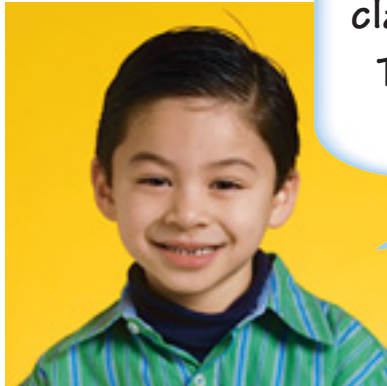# Describing and Summarizing Data (page 2 of 2)

Math Words
• **outlier**

Oscar noticed an outlier in this data set.

Oscar: *One person visited 14 states and 14 states is far away from the rest of the data. Visiting 14 states is unusual for our class, since most people visited between 1 and 3 states.*

An outlier is a piece of data that has an unusual value, much lower or much higher than most of the data.

Tom noticed a small clump of data.

A few students in our class visited 7 or 8 states. That's more states than most kids visited.

Think about the outlier in Becky's data.
What reasons might there be for one student visiting 14 states?
What do you think the data show about this class?
If you were writing a newspaper article, what would you report?
What evidence from the data supports your ideas?