Deanna's Spreadsheet Report

The first spreadsheet I choose to try in Google was the Eye Color Bar Chart.
The Grade level (as per the handout) is 2 - 6. I would agree with this.
The content areas are math, social studies and cross curricular. I was also agree with this, but I'm thinking this could also encompass science if it were used as part of a heredity/genetics lesson which addressed dominant and recessive traits.
The NETS-S standards are identified as 3b and 3d. 6 a, 6b are also applicable.
I though this was a pretty easy and straight forward lesson. I liked that students can extend their polling data to technology and can view it as a graph, and not just numbers. I think I would use this activity in conjunction with learning about probability in math class. Instead of the teacher asking for a show of hands for the eye colors, students could make hash marks on their polling sheets to collect the data themselves as well. I believe standard 1 & 3 could be touched on if a teacher inquired about other eye colors in nature, why certain organisms may have a specific eye color, what benefit is eye color, students could work in groups to further investigate and prepare a report/presentation based on their findings.

The second activity I choose was Planet Weigh-In. I choose this activity because I was curious and I thought my children would think it was neat (and they did). It is interesting to know what I would weigh, or perhaps my dog (or whatever) would weigh on a different planet.
The grade level was defined as 3-6 (as per the worksheet). I think younger children would think the answers were fun and interesting too and therefore I'm wondering if this could be done as a class, perhaps on an Interactive White Board, and the teacher could guide individual students through the process of setting up the spread sheet.
The content areas are math, science, & cross curricular. I would agree with this.
The NET-S identified in the handout are 3d & 4c.
I really liked this activity, I learned something from it and it's fun. I could see using this activity in science class when discussing the solar system or in math class as well, when discussing weights/measures. I read a blog about using Excel spreadsheets telling a story. I am wondering how I could use the "fun factor" of this activity and what a given object weighed on various planets and incorporating that into telling a story. Students could choose multiple objects and calculate their weights on other planets and create a story reflecting on the weight differences, for example, their football on Jupiter versus Earth. Perhaps a conversation between children on earth and alien children and games they play, or even space travel and the effects of gravity. I would really have to give this some thought, the concept of writing a story, or even acting out a story based on a graph, chart etc is a new thought, but I see where it would definitely apply and could be beneficial.

The final activity I choose was the Class Pet Pictogram.
Grade levels identified in the class handout were K-8, although the method of presentation would be altered based on grade level. I agree with this.
The content areas were not identified on this handout, however I believe it would be math, social sciences & cross curricular.
NET-S 6a, 6d, 1a, 2b,2c,3d

While I liked this activity, specifically, using pictures instead of colored columns, I found it challenging to do. After struggling in google, I tried it in Excel and found it much easier to do, although it was harder than the other activities I choose. I have yet to figure out how to manipulate my charts in google the way I do in Excel. I tried the help feature and didn't find it helpful. I tried to copy and paste the Excel spreadsheet into google and I also copied the Excel pictogram, pasted it into Word as a picture and then tried to put the picture into google, each time I failed. On a positive note, I think this activity could be used to study pets in other geographic areas and cultures. In addition to NETS-S identified above, this modification would also bring in the digital citizenship standards. As is, this activity is a great way to get to know one another better, thus helping build a positive classroom environment. Students could also work in groups to conduct further research on specific pets, perhaps there are 1 or more really unique pets in the class that allow for a teachable moment and further inquiry.