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## The Normal Distribution

## The Normal Distribution - The bell-shaped curve

Used when the data is unimodal and approximately symmetric (mean = median)


Sources: http://www.dummies.com/education/math/statistics/interpreting-histograms/ https://learnandteachstatistics.wordpress.com/2012/11/12/beware-of-excel-histograms/ https://www.xlstat.com/en/solutions/features/histograms

How to label a Normal Distribution - The standard deviation is the scale
Example. Heights of 10 -year-olds of all genders closely follow a normal distribution with a mean of 55 inches and a standard deviation of 6 inches. Label the normal curve.


## The 68-95-99.7 Rule for a Normal Distribution (Empirical Rule)


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## Calculating Probabilities with the Empirical Rule

Example Continued. Find the probability that a randomly selected 10-year-old is:
a. between 49 and 61 inches
b. between 55 and 61 inches
c. greater than 61 inches
d. 37 inches or less


## Z-Scores (Standard Scores)

The number of standard deviations that a value is away from the mean.

$$
Z=\frac{x-\text { mean }}{s}
$$


e. Find the Z-score for a 10-year-old height of 52 inches and give its interpretation.

## Percentile

The $x^{\text {th }}$ percentile is the value that $x \%$ of the data values are below.
f. A 10-year-old is in the $86^{\text {th }}$ percentile in height. This means the child is taller than $\qquad$ \% of 10-year-olds.

## Use the Empirical Rule to Find Percentiles



Find the corresponding percentiles for the Z-scores.

| Z-score | Percentile |
| :---: | :---: |
| -3 |  |
| -2 |  |
| -1 |  |
| 0 |  |
| 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| 3 |  |



