Graphing Supply & Demand

Supply Curves: show the relationship between the amount of product available (# of producers willing to sell) on the x-axis and the price of the product on the y-axis

Demand Curves: show the relationship between the number of consumers willing to purchase a product (x-axis) and the price of the product (y-axis)

1. Pumpkins at the Farmer's Market:

A. **Supply Curve:** There are 4 farmers who would like to sell their pumpkins at the farmer's market. Zero farmers will sell their Pumpkins for \$0 each. At \$1, 1 farmer will sell their pumpkins. At \$2.00, 2 farmers will sell their pumpkins. At \$3.00, 3 farmers will sell their pumpkins. At \$4.00, all 4 farmers will sell their pumpkins.



Producers willing to sell (#)



Consumers willing to buy (#)



B. **Demand Curve:** At \$1 per pumpkin, four buyers will purchase pumpkins. At \$2 each, 3 people will buy pumpkins. At \$3, 2 people will buy pumpkins. At \$4, 1 person will buy pumpkins. Zero people will pay \$5 for a pumpkin.

Application Questions:

1. Give an example of something that would increase the demand for pumpkins at the farmer's market.

Any logical answer is acceptable. Examples include: Halloween, a local event requiring pumpkins (such as a pumpkin walk), etc.

2. Give an example of what could decrease the available supply of pumpkins at the farmer's market. Any logical answer is acceptable. Examples include: drought, disease, pests, early frost, or anything decreasing the pumpkin harvest.

2. Chocolate Milk Chugs:

A. **Supply Curve:** Your school wants to start selling chocolate milk chugs in their vending machines. There are 5 vending companies who have offered to supply the milk. Zero companies will sell their milk chugs for \$0 each. At \$0.50, 1 vendor will sell their milk chugs. At \$1.00, 2 vendors will sell their milk. At \$1.50, 3 vendors will sell their milk. At \$2.00, all 5 vendors will sell their milk.

B. **Demand Curve:** At \$0.50 per milk chug, 5 students will purchase milk. At \$1 each, 4

chugs. Zero students will buy milk chugs for

students will buy milk chugs. At \$1.50, 2 students will buy milk chugs. At \$2, 1 person will buy milk





Consumers willing to buy (#)

Application Questions:

\$2.50 each.

1. What could be done at the school to increase the demand for chocolate milk chugs?

Any logical answer is acceptable. Examples include: teach students about the health benefits of milk consumption, remove the soda pop machines, decrease the price of milk chugs, etc.

2. What would be the ideal price for the milk chugs?

Help students see that the supply and demand curves for chocolate milk intersect between \$1.00 and \$1.50. Explain simply that the equilibrium price balances supply and demand.

