Next Month's Electricity Use

Directions: Elsa and Zack are arguing about how they might use the monthly kilowatt hour data they collected from the Fox family's electric bills to make a prediction about how many kilowatt hours (kWh) the family will use next month. Zack thinks they should use one of the measures of central tendency (mean, median, or mode). Elsa thinks they should make a graph of the data.

What would you do? Would you use Zack or Elsa's ideas or would you do something else? Explain how you would use the data to help the Fox family estimate how many kilowatt hours of electricity they will use in the upcoming month. Also, be able to explain why you think your approach would give the Fox family the most accurate estimate.

Monthly Electricity Use
Addison Fox

Month	2009 kWh	2010 kWh	2011 kWh
January	1078*	763*	577
February	531	789	552
March	560	658	481
April	751	751	610
May	639	587	
June	614	557	
July	718	594	
August	675	482	
September	624	561	
October	781	653	
November	697	702	
December	880	620	

* indicates estimate based on past usage