

Game Time

Probability Brain Teasers

Can you solve these riddles that involve probability? Watch out—some of them are tricky!

- 1 In Wade City, 5% of the residents have unlisted phone numbers. If you selected 100 people at random from the town's phone directory, how many of them would you predict have unlisted numbers?
- 2 Amanda has a drawer that contains 24 black socks and 18 white socks. If she reaches into the drawer without looking, how many socks does she have to pull out in order to be *certain* that she will have two socks of the same color?
- 3 Dale, Melvin, Carter, and Ken went out to eat. Each person ordered something different. When the food came, the waiter could not remember who had ordered what, so he set the plates down at random in front of the four friends. What is the probability that exactly three of the boys got what they ordered?



Round and Round and Round

This is a game for two players.

The object of this game is to determine which of the three spinners is the winning spinner (lands on the greater number most often).

Both players choose a spinner and spin at the same time. Record which spinner lands on the greater number. Repeat this 19 more times, keeping track of which spinner wins each time. Repeat this process until you have played spinner A against spinner B, spinner B against spinner C, and spinner A against spinner C. Spin each pair of spinners 20 times and record the results.

Which spinner wins more often, A or B?
Which spinner wins more often, B or C?
Which spinner wins more often, A or C?
Is there anything surprising about your results?



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Game Time Extra
KEYWORD: MS8CA Games

A complete copy of the rules and game pieces are available online.