

Lesson Plan

Probability

Probability measures the likelihood of an event happening. A probability is normally expressed as a fraction between 0 and 1. 0 indicates an impossibility and 1 a certainty.

Ask 7 children in turn to take a sweet out of a bag of sweets. In the bag there are 6 toffies and one boiled sweet. What is the probability of drawing out the boiled sweet first time?

The probability will be one in seven or $\frac{1}{7}$ or 0.143. It is a low decimal so the probability is small.

If we now replace 4 of the toffies with boiled sweets what is the likelihood of pulling a boiled sweet out of the bag now?

The probability is now four in seven or $\frac{4}{7}$ or 0.57 this is closer to 1 therefore it is highly possible.

Ask the children to create their own probabilities and in groups explain the rest of the class.