# Skittles Probability 

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Grade Level: $7^{\text {th }}$ Grade
Lesson Source: GO Math: Independent/Dependent Events

## Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (Process and Concept TEKS):

7.1 Mathematical process standards. The student uses mathematical processes to acquire and demonstrate mathematical understanding. The student is expected to:
E. Create and use representations to organize, record, and communicate mathematical ideas;
7.6 Proportionality. The student applies mathematical process standards to use probability and statistics to describe or solve problems involving proportional relationships. The student is expected to:
D. Make predictions and determine solutions using theoretical probability for simple and compound events
E. Find the probabilities of a simple event and its complement and describe the relationship between the two
H. Solve problems using qualitative and quantitative predictions and comparisons from simple experiments

## English Language Proficiency Standard (learning strategies, listening, speaking, reading or writing):

3) Cross-curricular second language acquisition/speaking. The ELL speaks in a variety of modes for a variety of purposes with an awareness of different language registers (formal/informal) using vocabulary with increasing fluency and accuracy in language arts and all content areas. ELLs may be at the beginning, intermediate, advanced, or advanced high stage of English language acquisition in speaking. In order for the ELL to meet grade-level learning expectations across the foundation and enrichment curriculum, all instruction delivered in English must be linguistically accommodated (communicated, sequenced, and scaffold) commensurate with the student's level of English language proficiency. The student is expected to:
(A) practice producing sounds of newly acquired vocabulary such as long and short vowels, silent letters, and consonant clusters to pronounce English words in a manner that is increasingly comprehensible.

## Student Sentence Stem:

The difference between theoretical and experimental probability is...?

Finding the theoretical probability is useful because...?

## Concepts Statement:

- Students will determine the difference between theoretical and experimental probability.
- Theoretical - Ratio of the number of ways an event can occur to the total number of equally likely outcomes using math formulas
- Experimental - Ratio of number of times an event occurs to the total number of trials or times the activity is preformed by conducting an experiment and collecting data.
- Students will find the probability of an event using [event]/total to find a probability between 0 and 1.
- Students will convert decimal ratios to percentages by multiplying the decimal by 100.
- Students will learn vocab words independent and dependent events and apply them to calculate probability.
- Independent events- two or more events in which the outcome of one event DOES NOT effect the outcome of the other event(s).
- Dependent events - two or more events in which the outcome of one event DOES effect the outcome of the other event(s).


## Objectives:

SWBAT represent probability of a situation as a number between 0 and 1
SWBAT find the theoretical probability given a specific sample size
SWBAT calculate the experimental probability using data that was collected in an experiment.

## Appropriateness of Lesson to the Grade Level:

This is very appropriate for a $7^{\text {th }}$ grade class. The material being introduced is with-in their $7^{\text {th }}$ grade TEKS. The use of skittles is very engaging for them and will keep their attention throughout the lesson. This lesson is hands on which will keep them actively engaged and less likely to be distracted by other things around the classroom. By having them work in groups of 2 , they will feed off each others idea and learn to interact with others in a working environment which is a key skill to learn at this age.

## Materials List:

15 W/S of each handout cut in half ( 30 total)
15 zip lock bags
30 bags of skittles
Pack of sticky notes ( 5 different colors per group of 2)
iPad (classroom set)

## Advanced Preparations:

Pull up the pie Chart maker online before class (www.meta-chart.com)
Upload "Outfit Combinations" to the each iPad
Put two bags of skittles in each zip lock bag. One bag for every 2 students
Assort the colored sickies before hand (one for every color of skittles)

## Safety:

Don't eat the skittles!

| ENGAGEMENT |  | Time:5 Min |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| What the Teacher Will Do | Probing/Eliciting Questions | Student Responses and (Misconceptions) |
| Teacher will hand out pretest. Remind the students that this is to be completed individually and to put their names on the top of their paper and turned in when they are finished. | Is this group work? Why or why not? | No, this is your own work to show how much you already know and at the end we will take a post check to see how much we have learned. |
| Teacher will instruct students to open up the PHET simulation "Outfit | What are the chances that he wears a red shirt? | 1/3 |
| Combination" on their iPads. | What are the chances he will wear a hat? Not wear a hat? | 2/3, 1/3 |
| Students will be asked to | How many different outfit combinations are there? | Counted number of options $=27$ |
| the chances a specific shirt/pant/accessory will appear. | How do the number of different clothing items relate to the total number of different outfit combinations? | Incorrect: Add the number of clothing articles: $3+3+3=9$ Multiply all the options: $3^{*} 3^{*} 3=27=3^{\wedge} 3$ |


|  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |
|  | Probability is between |  |
| what 2 numbers? |  |  | | $0 \%$ and $100 \%$ |
| :--- |
| $0-1$ |
| (event number and |
| $100)$ |


| EXPLORATION |  | Time: 20 Min |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| What the Teacher Will Do | Probing/Eliciting Questions | Student Responses and Misconceptions |
| Teacher will hand out paper ("Skittles Probability") and one zip-lock bag of skittles to each group (2 per group). |  |  |
| Tell students that Skittles makes the same number of red, yellow, green, purple, and orange skittles. Ask students to predict theoretical probability in decimal form and percentage. <br> Students should then input this data into their iPads. Teacher will also input the data and show on the overhead. | How do you find ratio? <br> What is the theoretical probability that you will choose a red skittle? Using theoretical probability, what color are you most likely to choose? Least likely? How does everyone's pie chart look compared to your other classmates? Explain. | Number of (blank) <br> skittles / Total number of skittles <br> 1/5 <br> Both are the same because Skittles makes the same number of all colors (more red because I like red) <br> The same because theoretical is the same for everyone. $1 / 5$ for each color skittle. Incorrect: Different because we have different bags of skittles |


|  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Students should not open bag and NOT EAT any skittles. <br> On the $2^{\text {nd }}$ part of the handout they should fill in the Total skittles: Once they do that, Have students count how many of each color skittles they have and record under "Number of skittles". <br> On the board, teacher will write, "Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue" to form columns. <br> When students have finished, have them write down how many of each color skittles they had in the bag on a sticky note and stick them on the board under the correct color. <br> When finished teacher should ask students to find the ratio of each color of skittles to the total number of skittles in the bag. (Tell students not to divide this number, just put the fraction) | How do you find the ratio? <br> How is this ratio different from the ratio we got in the first part of the lesson? <br> What is theoretical probability? <br> What is experimental probability? | Number of [color] <br> skittles / total skittles <br> NOT: 1/5 <br> It is not exactly the same. Some have more the $20 \%$ of the skittles, others have less. <br> Theoretical - Ratio of the number of ways an event can occur to the total number of equally likely outcomes using math equations <br> Experimental - Ratio of number of times an event occurs to the total number of trials or times the activity is preformed found by conducting experiments and using data collected. |


| EXPLANATION | Time:10 Min |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| What the Teacher Will Do | Probing/Eliciting <br> Questions | Student Responses <br> and Misconceptions |
| Students will look at the <br> board and add up the <br> number of skittles under <br> each color. Then they will <br> find the total number of <br> skittles. | What is the theoretical <br> probability of choosing <br> a red skittle out of the <br> whole class? | $1 / 5$ <br> Incorrect: add up total <br> green out of class total |
| Teacher will ask them | What is the <br> experimental probability <br> of choosing a green <br> skittle out of the whole | Number of total green <br> skittles out of total. <br> Incorrect: green skittles <br> out of 100 |


| calculate the ratio of the <br> whole classes skittles and <br> teacher will fill out the same <br> worksheet as them in front of <br> the class using the classes <br> data. | class? |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | How do we find the <br> experimental probability <br> of getting a red? | Number of red skittles/ <br> Total number of skittles |
|  | How do you represent <br> that as a percentage | Percentage = decimal <br> (x100) |
| and as a decimal? |  |  |$\quad$| Probability-The likely |
| :--- |
| hood of you will choose |
| a red skittle of a certain |
| Teacher will then ask |
| students how to calculate |
| probability in decimal form, |
| and percentage. After seeing |
| the teacher perform this |
| procedure on the board, |
| students should do the same of skittles |
| with their own data and fill in |
| probability of choosing |
| a red skittle mean? |
| paper. |


|  | skittles, and they doubled the amount of red skittles in the bag, would theoretical probability change? If yes, how so? <br> What chart can best display probability? What other graphs be used to show percentage? | Incorrect: 2/5, no <br> Pie chart Bar chart Pictogram *if they answer other charts, have students explain their reasoning behind it. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Have students label the left half page "Theoretical Probability" and the right half page, "Experimental Probability" <br> Students will now input their data into the iPad. <br> Teacher will use technology to display the results using an online pie chart and the class probability of skittles to show the differences between experimental and theoretical probability. | How is this the $1^{\text {st }}$ page percentage different than the $2^{\text {nd }}$ page percentage? <br> How does the theoretical pie chart compare to the experimental pie chart? | $1^{\text {st }}$ page $=$ probability of choosing each color is the same, 20\% <br> 2nd page = probability of choosing a color differs from . 20 <br> Experimental pie chart is not even. <br> Some pie sections are bigger than the others. <br> Incorrect: They look the same. |


| ELABORATION |  | Time:10 Min |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| What the Teacher Will Do | Probing/Eliciting <br> Questions | Student Responses <br> and Misconceptions |
| Hand out "Elaborate <br> Theoretical Probability" <br> handout to students. <br> Students will work <br> individually first and then <br> teachers will go over <br> answers on the board. <br> Teacher will show paper on <br> the overhead and call on | Are these questions <br> experimental or <br> theoretical probability | Theoretical |
| questions? | Why is this theoretical | Haven't performed the <br> experiment yet. |


| students to answer the <br> questions and ask how they <br> found their answers. | questions be turned <br> into experimental <br> questions? <br> Give an example. | was collected by an <br> experiment. <br> "A student rolled a 5, <br> 14 times out of 20. <br> What is the <br> experimental data?" |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | How do you determine <br> the sample size? | Sample size is the total <br> number of "things" you <br> have <br> Incorrect: always 100 |
|  | How does taking an <br> object out without <br> replacing it affect the <br> probability? | You must take that <br> "object" out of total <br> objects and whatever <br> event it was associated <br> with. |
|  | Incorrect: Doesn't <br> matter if you replace it <br> or not |  |


| EVLUATION |  | Time:10 Min |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| What the Teacher Will Do | Probing/Eliciting <br> Questions | Student Responses <br> and Misconceptions |
| Hand out half worksheet to <br> students. Have them <br> complete it individually and <br> turn it in after they're done. <br> Remind them to put their <br> names on their paper! | What do you do after <br> you are finished? | Turn it in to the teacher. |
| After they are done, they can <br> "dispose of the skittles" <br> (eat them) |  |  |

$\qquad$

The following data was collected by a student by rolling a 6 sided die.

| Outcome | Frequency |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 14 |
| 2 | 18 |
| 3 | 10 |
| 4 | 22 |
| 5 | 20 |
| 6 | 16 |
| TOTAL: | 100 |

a. What is the experimental probability of rolling a 4 ?
b. What is the theoretical probability of rolling a 4 ?
c. Experimental probability of less than 4 ? $(1,2$, or 3$)$
d. What percentage of the rolls were a 6 ?

## PRETEST - KEY

The following data was collected by a student by rolling a 6 sided die.
a. What is the experimental probability of rolling a 4 ?
. 22
b. What is the theoretical probability of rolling a 4 ?
1/6,. 166667
c. Experimental probability of less than 4 ? $(1,2$, or 3$)$
.42
d. What percentage of the rolls were a 6 ?
16\%

## Skittles Probability

Skittles factor produces the same number of red, orange, yellow, green, and purple skittles in their factory every day. In each pack of skittles, there is supposed to be 15 skittles.

The zip-lock bag in front of you has 2 bags of skittles in it. How many skittles should there be in the bag?
(Place this number in the box with ${ }^{* * *}$ at the top)
Using the information above, calculate the Theoretical Probability of each individual color of Skittles in the zip-lock bag.

|  | Number of <br> skittles per <br> zip-lock bag | Probability | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Red |  |  |  |
| Orange |  |  |  |
| Yellow |  |  |  |
| Green |  |  |  |
| Purple |  |  |  |
| Total: | ${ }^{* * *}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{1 0 0 0}$ |

Without taking the skittles out of your zip-lock bag, count how many red, orange, yellow, green, and purple skittles are in your bag and record your findings under "Number of Skittles".
Add these numbers up and find the total number of Skittles in your bag.

Using this information, calculate the Experimental Probability of each individual color of skittles in the bag.

|  | Number <br> of <br> Skittles | \# of <br> Skittles <br> Total <br> Tkittles | Probability <br> (decimal <br> form) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Red |  |  |  |  |
| Orange |  |  |  |  |
| Yellow |  |  |  |  |
| Green |  |  |  |  |
| Purple |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |

Calculate the Experimental Probability for the entire class below.

|  | Number of <br> Skittles | \# of Skittles <br> To-al <br> Skittles | Probability <br> (decimal form) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Red |  |  |  |  |
| Orange |  |  |  |  |
| Yellow |  |  |  |  |
| Green |  |  |  |  |
| Purple |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |

Calculate the Experimental Probability for the entire class below.

|  | Number of <br> Skittles | \# of Skittles <br> To-al <br> Skittles | Probability <br> (decimal form) | Percentage |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Red |  |  |  |  |
| Orange |  |  |  |  |
| Yellow |  |  |  |  |
| Green |  |  |  |  |
| Purple |  |  |  |  |
| Total: |  |  |  |  |



## Theoretical Probability

Probability Word Problems
Name:
(1) Each of the letters in the word VANQUISH are on separate cards face down on the table. If you pick a card at random, what is the probability that the letter on it will fall within the range of " H " and " S " in the alphabet?
(3) A gumball machine contains 20 pink gumballs, 18 green gumballs, and 10 blue gumballs. What is the probability that the next gumball that comes out will be neither pink nor green?
(2) You roll a 19-sided die (having values one through 19 on its faces). What is the probability that the value of the roll will be an even number?
4) You ask a friend to think of a number from 9 to 15 . What is the probability that his number will be a multiple of three?
(5) You pick one card from a standard deck. What is the probability that the card will be a black card higher than eight?


## Theoretical Probability

Probability Word Problems

1) Each of the letters in the word VANQUISH are on separate cards face down on the table. If you pick a card at random, what is the probability that the letter on it will fal within the range of " H " and " S " in the alphabet?

5 out of 8 letters, or $62.5 \%$
(3) A gumball machine contains 20 pink gumballs, 18 green gumballs, and 10 blue gumballs. What is the probability that the next gumball that comes out will be neither pink nor green?

10 out of 48 gumballs, or $20.8 \%$
(5) You pick one card from a standard deck. What is the probability that the card will be a black card higher than eight?
12 out of 52 cards, or $23.1 \%$
(2) You roll a 19 -sided die (having values one through 19 on its faces). What is the probability that the value of the oll will be an even number?

9 out of 19 sides, or $47.4 \%$
(4) You ask a friend to think of a number from 9 to 15 . What is the probability hat his number will be a multiple of three?

3 out of 7 numbers, or 42.9\%
6) A jar contains 6 orange, 2 yellow, and 5 pink marbles. If you pick one without looking, what is the probability that the marble you pick will be neither orange nor yellow?
5 out of 13 marbles, or 38.5\%

## Test Your Knowledge

A student rolls a six sided die 100 times. The number of times each number (1-6) was rolled is recorded below under "Frequency". Use this information to
answer the questions below.
a. What is the experimental probability of rolling a 3 ?

| Dice side <br> number | Frequency <br> of rolls |
| ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 16 |
| 2 | 20 |
| 3 | 22 |
| 4 | 10 |
| 5 | 18 |
| 6 | 14 |
| Total rolls | 100 |

b. What is the theoretical probability of rolling a three?
c. What is the theoretical probability of rolling less than 3 ? (1 or 2)
d. What percentage of the total rolls were a 5 ?

## Test Your Knowledge

A student rolls a six sided die 100 times. The number of times each number $1-6$ ) was rolled is recorded below under "Frequency". Use this information to answer the questions below.

| Dice side <br> number | Frequency <br> of rolls |
| ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 16 |
| 2 | 20 |
| 3 | 22 |
| 4 | 10 |
| 5 | 18 |
| 6 | 14 |
| Total rolls | 100 |

a. What is the experimental probability of rolling a 3 ?
b. What is the theoretical probability of rolling a three?
c. What is the theoretical probability of rolling less than 3 ? (1 or 2)
d. What percentage of the total rolls were a 5

