

Trend Task:

Pick a Teddy

Approach: One to one

Year: 4 & 8

Focus: Probability

Resources: Bag of 12 teddies, prompt card

Questions / instructions:

There are 12 teddies in this bag. Six are green, 4 are blue and 2 are yellow.

Give bag of teddies and prompt card to student.

6 green
4 blue
2 yellow



Shake the bag so the teddies are mixed up.

1. If I were to close my eyes and pick a teddy out of this bag, what colour will I most likely get?

green 81 (79) 97 (94)

2. Why do you say that?

most likely to get most common colour 70 (70) 96 (93)

3. What is the chance of taking out a yellow teddy?

2 out of 12 or two twelfths or one sixth or about 16% 3 (2) 44 (32)

less/least/little chance than green and blue 37 (43) 19 (27)

4. What is the chance of taking out a green teddy?

6 out of 12 or six twelfths or one half or one out of 2 or 50% 4 (2) 52 (43)

greatest/great chance 42 (49) 13 (23)

Total score: 6 2 (1) 41 (28)

4-5 31 (33) 22 (34)

2-3 40 (40) 34 (34)

0-1 27 (26) 3 (4)

% response
2005 ('01)

year 4 year 8

Commentary:

Students in year 4 and year 8 showed a basic understanding of the relationship between frequency and probability. Explaining that reasoning and turning it into a precise probability has begun to develop in some of the year 8 students. Year 8 students were more likely to get all questions correct in 2005 than in 2001.