What are the Chances?

Task One

In pairs, play this game “That’s Not Fair!: Bunny Hop”.

That’s Not Fair!: Bunny Hop

1. Each player needs a counter and a coin.
2. Place the counters on zero.
3. Take turns tossing a coin.
   – If it shows tails, move one space to the right.
   – If it shows heads, move one space to the left.
4. The winner is the player who is on the highest number after 10 tosses each.

5	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3	4	5

Activity taken from https://nzmaths.co.nz/sites/default/files/thats-not-fair-1.pdf

Task Two

Read the story *What are the Chances*? written by Jenna, Conor, Saoirse, Ciara, and Erica. Who do you think will make it to the treasure first? Finish the story and be ready to justify who the winner is to your partner.

What are the chances?

What are the Chances?

Story written as part of a Fighting Words workshop with preservice primary teacher in Dublin City University 2022

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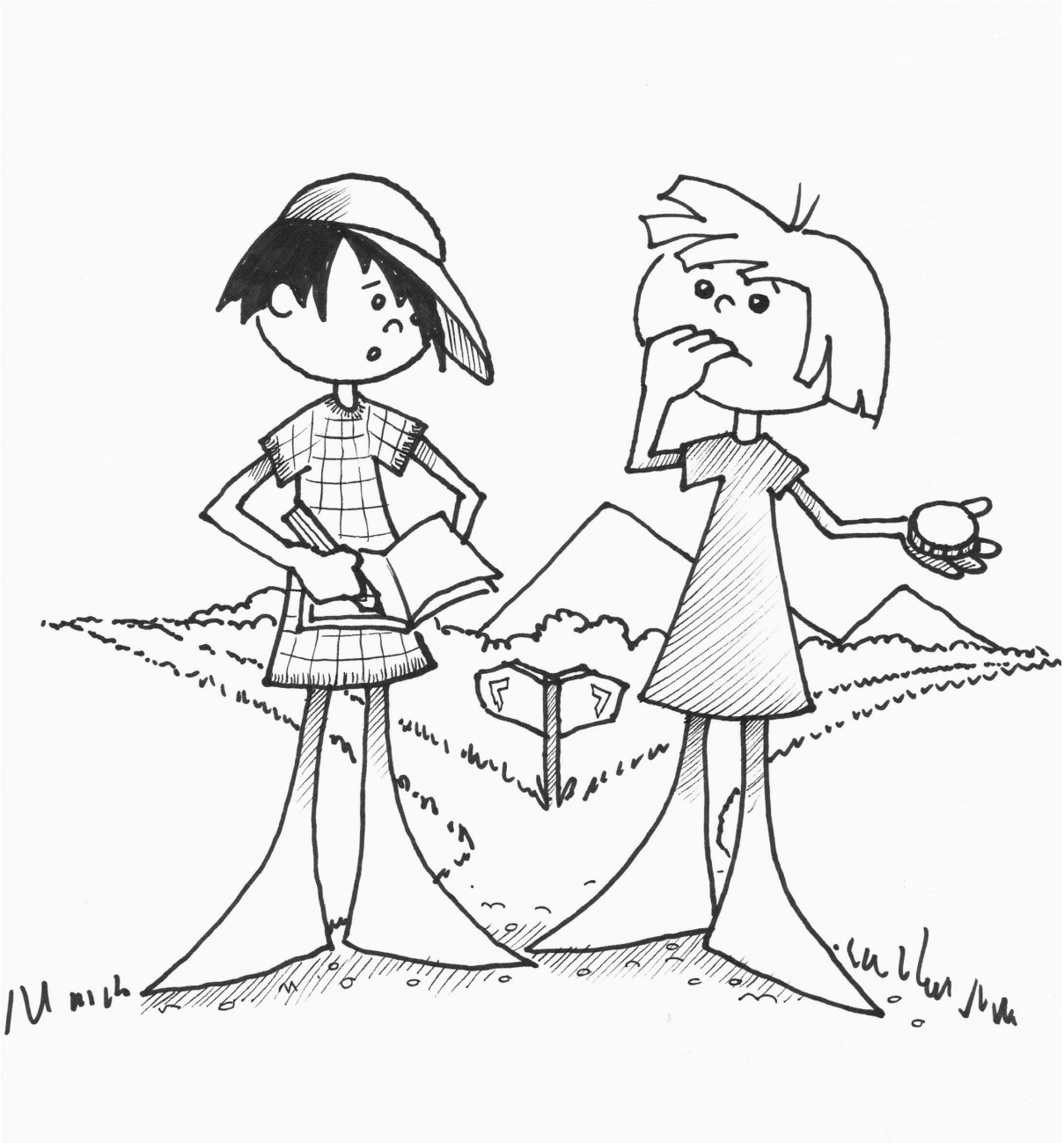


CanDice and Data arrived by ship to Treasure Island in search of the Hidden treasure. It was a race to it, as each of them had a different idea as to how to get there. CanDice favoured Chance, she was very random. Data followed the proven way and loved having a plan using graphs and maps.

They each set off on their own journey. Not two steps onto the island, the pair came to a crossroads. On the left, a neat, straight red path, and on the right a twisty, turny blue one. Data chose to follow the red path first, as it was proven to be the shortest path of travel. “You should come this way! It’s been timed and recorded. It’s the shorter path, it’s straight the whole way!”

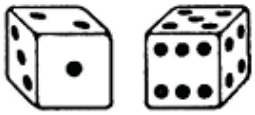
“I’m just going to flick my trusty coin!” CanDice chose the toss of a coin, heads for red, tails for blue. She flicked a coin, and it landed on tails. “Tails never fails!” and she followed the blue path. The blue path was long and windy and took a looooonggggg time to travel.

Can you finish the story? Who do you think got to the treasure first?

MATHSCIFY
ASSESSMENT

Task 3

Two fair six-sided dice are thrown in a probability game and the two numbers at the top are recorded.



CanDice wins if the difference between the two numbers is 0, 1, or 2.
Data wins if the difference between the two numbers is 3, 4, or 5.

Discuss with your partner whether the game is fair.

Then answer which of the following statements is correct?

A. Both have an equal chance of winning.
B. CanDice has the greater chance of winning.
C. Data has the greater chance of winning.
D. As the game involves two dice, it's not possible to say who has the greater chance of winning.

Activity taken from TEDS-M 2008 User Guide for the International Database.