

Drug and Alcohol Prevention

Video Title: Ashley

Lesson Title: A Statistical Roll of the Dice

Grade Level: High School



Project and Purpose

Students use a dice rolling exercise as a metaphor for the statistics of being in a drug- or alcohol-related car accident.

Essential Question

Why do teens think of themselves as invincible?

Materials

- Pairs of dice (one pair for every four students)
- Writing tools
- Invincible Me Roll of the Dice Chart/Worksheet

Procedure

1. In a prominent classroom location where everyone will take note, write the sentence: "It will never happen to me." Ask students what it means to them to be invincible. Ask, have you ever thought of yourself as invincible? Explain your answer.
2. Ask someone to call out a number between 2 and 12. Roll a pair of dice 10 times and record the number of times you roll the designated number (the sum of the two die.) Calculate as a percentage of the total number of rolls of the dice. Ask students to note the number of rolls it took until you rolled the designated number.
3. Break the class into groups of four (4) and give each group a pair of dice, a Roll of the Dice chart, and a writing tool. Each member is to roll the dice 10 times trying to get the designated number, always rolling the two dice at the same time.
4. Have a recorder note the number of times each person rolls the designated number in his/her 10 attempts. Calculate the percentage. (If the number was achieved twice, in 2 rolls out of 10, the percentage is 20 percent.)
5. Compare the results with the class, identifying the students with the highest and lowest percentages of rolling the designated number. Ask the groups if there was a member who never rolled the number in the 10 attempts.
6. Then present the scenario to the class that the selected designated number and percentage as a metaphor (a thing regarded as representative or symbolic of something else, especially something abstract) for being involved in a drug- or alcohol-related accident. What does that say about the highest percentage roller and the lowest percentage roller? Why?

7. Discuss with the class: Is anyone really invincible? Ask students to explain or write about their answers in terms of the dice experience and the examples in their own lives.

Conclusion

Review the themes of the video. Discuss with students what they can do to reduce the percentages of ever having a drug- or alcohol- related accident – and becoming a statistic.

Notes

Worksheet: Invincible Me: My Roll of the Dice Chart

Selected Number _____

Roll #	Outcome
Roll One	
Roll Two	
Roll Three	
Roll Four	
Roll Five	
Roll Six	
Roll Seven	
Roll Eight	
Roll Nine	
Roll Ten	

Number of times selected number was rolled in ten rolls of the dice: _____

Percentage Occurrence: _____ %