

# Probability

# Let's work on some definitions

**Experiment**- is a situation involving a chance that leads to results called outcomes.

An **outcome** is the result of a single trial of an experiment.

An **event** is one or more outcomes of an experiment.

**Probability** is the measure of how likely an event will occur.

# Probability of an event

- The probability of event A is the number of ways event A can occur divided by the total number of possible outcomes.
- $P(A) = \frac{\text{The number of ways an event can occur}}{\text{Total number of possible outcomes}}$

# Probability

If  $P = 0$ , then the event cannot occur.

It is impossible

If  $P = 1$ , then the event must occur.

It is certain

So probability is always a number  
between 0 and 1.

# Complements

All of the probabilities must add up to 100% or 1.0 in decimal form.

**\*\*Complement = 1 - Event**

Example: Classroom

$$P(\text{picking a boy}) = 0.60$$

$$P(\text{picking a girl}) = \underline{1 - 0.60} = 0.40$$

A glass jar contains 6 red, 5 green, 8 blue and 3 yellow marbles.

Experiment: A marble is chosen at random.

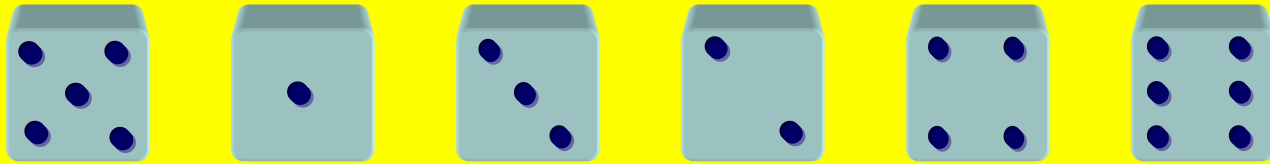
- Possible outcomes: choosing a red, blue, green or yellow marble.
- Probabilities:

$$P(\text{red}) = \frac{\text{number of red marbles}}{\text{total number of marbles}} = \frac{6}{22} = \frac{3}{11}$$

$$P(\text{green}) = \frac{5}{22}, \quad P(\text{blue}) = \frac{8}{22} = \frac{4}{11}, \quad P(\text{yellow}) = \frac{3}{22}$$

Ex.

You roll a six-sided die whose sides are numbered from 1 through 6. **What is the probability of rolling an ODD number?**



**There are 3 ways to roll an odd number: 1, 3, 5.**

$$P(\textit{odd}) = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$