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Chances Are... discusses many social issues where probability and statistics play (or should play) key roles. Its approach is much more literary, philosophical, and historical than most other books in this genre. It starts by introducing many of the usual probability basics, such as dice games, Pascal's triangle, Bayes' theorem, the Poisson distribution, and Venn diagrams, all with interesting ...

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BOOKS. Nonfiction. Chances Are. Adventures in Probability. By Michael Kaplan and Ellen Kaplan. 319 pages. \$26.95. Viking. Life is a gamble, and the English language reflects it.

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Chances Are: Adventures in Probability - The New York Times

Chances Are is the story of man ' s millennia-long search for the tools to manage the recurrent but unpredictable—to help us prevent, or at least mitigate, the seemingly random blows of disaster, disease, and injustice. In these pages, we meet the brilliant individuals who developed the first abstract formulations of probability, as well as the intrepid visionaries who recognized their practical applications—from gamblers to military strategists to meteorologists to medical researchers ...

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What Are the Chances?: Voodoo Deaths, Office Gossip, and ...

Probability can be expressed in mathematical and philosophical terms, and this book reviews those concepts but quickly moves on to easily understood discussion of the material. We are surrounded in a life of probabilities which usually goes unnoticed until reminded by a book such as this.

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obsessing about who the girl with Brandon was, and trying to Chances Are: Adventures in Probability out why she Chances Are: Adventures in Probability so familiar. Ask the students to work in pairs to make a statement based on the spinner and give a reason why it is true.

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So we have to take measurements Chances Are: Adventures in Probability a long period. Bernoulli Werke ref. Many simple events can be found theoretically. So

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A compelling journey through history, mathematics, and philosophy, charting humanity's struggle against randomness Our lives are played out in the arena of chance. However little we recognize it in our day-to-day existence, we are always riding the odds, seeking out certainty but settling—reluctantly—for likelihood, building our beliefs on the shadowy props of probability. Chances Are is the story of man's millennia-long search for the tools to manage the recurrent but unpredictable—to help us prevent, or at least mitigate, the seemingly random blows of disaster, disease, and injustice. In these pages, we meet the brilliant individuals who developed the first abstract formulations of probability, as well as the intrepid visionaries who recognized their practical applications—from gamblers to military strategists to meteorologists to medical researchers, from blackjack to our own mortality.

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A layman's journey into the realm of probability. We search for certainty, but find only likelihood. All things are possible, only one thing actually happens; everything else is in the realm of probability. The twin disciplines of probability and statistics underpin every modern science and sketch the shape of all purposeful group activity--politics, economics, medicine, law, sports--giving humans a handle on the essential uncertainty of their existence. Yet while we are all aware of the hard facts, most of us still refuse to take account of probability--preferring to drive, not fly; buying into market blips; smoking cigarettes; denying we will ever age. There are some people, though--gamblers, risk buyers, forensic experts, doctors, strategists--who find probability's mass of incomplete uncertainties delightful and revelatory. This book is their story.--From publisher description.

What, exactly, is chance? In this book, statistician and storyteller Holland takes readers on a tour of the world of probability. Weaving together tales from real life, he writes of surprising examples of probability in action, everyday events that can profoundly affect lives but are controlled by just a number.

A lighthearted survey of the science of mistakes by the authors of Chances Are reveals how the human race is hard-wired to get things wrong in countless ways, citing such examples as successful racy advertisements for inferior products, our inclinations to favor dysfunctional relationship partners and the socially unacceptable behaviors of leaders. Reprint.

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Combines colorful photographs and interactive examples in an introduction to the science and math of probability that provides comprehensive explanations about games of chance and various easy-to-understand scenarios. By the author of Great Estimations.

In the wrong hands, math can be deadly. Even the simplest numbers can become powerful forces when manipulated by politicians or the media, but in the case of the law, your liberty -- and your life -- can depend on the right calculation. In *Math on Trial*, mathematicians Leila Schneps and Coralie Colmez describe ten trials spanning from the nineteenth century to today, in which mathematical arguments were used -- and disastrously misused -- as evidence. They tell the stories of Sally Clark, who was accused of murdering her children by a doctor with a faulty sense of calculation; of nineteenth-century tycoon Hetty Green, whose dispute over her aunt's will became a signal case in the forensic use of mathematics; and of the case of Amanda Knox, in which a judge's misunderstanding of probability led him to discount critical evidence -- which might have kept her in jail. Offering a fresh angle on cases from the nineteenth-century Dreyfus affair to the murder trial of Dutch nurse Lucia de Berk, Schneps and Colmez show how the improper application of mathematical concepts can mean the difference between walking free and life in prison. A colorful narrative of mathematical abuse, *Math on Trial* blends courtroom drama, history, and math to show that legal expertise isn't always enough to prove a person innocent.

Waking up one morning to find a talking cat on his head, Ethan is informed that the cat will not leave until he - Ethan - wins a game of probability.

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The hazards of feeling lucky in gambling Why do so many gamblers risk it all when they know the odds of winning are against them? Why do they believe dice are "hot" in a winning streak? Why do we expect heads on a coin toss after several flips have turned up tails? What's Luck Got to Do with It? takes a lively and eye-opening look at the mathematics, history, and psychology of gambling to reveal the most widely held misconceptions about luck. It exposes the hazards of feeling lucky, and uses the mathematics of predictable outcomes to show when our chances of winning are actually good. Mathematician Joseph Mazur traces the history of gambling from the earliest known archaeological evidence of dice playing among Neolithic peoples to the first systematic mathematical studies of games of chance during the Renaissance, from government-administered lotteries to the glittering seductions of grand casinos, and on to the global economic crisis brought on by financiers' trillion-dollar bets. Using plenty of engaging anecdotes, Mazur explains the mathematics behind gambling—including the laws of probability, statistics, betting against expectations, and the law of large numbers—and describes the psychological and emotional factors that entice people to put their faith in winning that ever-elusive jackpot despite its mathematical improbability. As entertaining as it is informative, What's Luck Got to Do with It? demonstrates the pervasive nature of our belief in luck and the deceptive psychology of winning and losing. Some images inside the book are unavailable due to digital copyright restrictions.

Traces the development of mathematical thinking and describes the characteristics of the

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"republic of numbers" in terms of humankind's fascination with, and growing knowledge of, infinity.

This book combines detailed scientific historical research with characteristic philosophic breadth and verve.

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