

Math Forum - Problem of the Week

A Dicey Situation

Jamie made up a new dice game. Two players each roll an ordinary six-sided die. Of the two numbers showing, the smaller is subtracted from the larger.



Scoring:

- If the difference is 0, 1, or 2, player A gets 1 point.
- If the difference is 3, 4, or 5, player B gets 1 point.

The game ends after 12 rounds. The player with the most points wins the game.

If you are given the choice of being Player A or Player B, which would you pick, assuming you want to win?

Remember to explain all the steps you use in making your decision.

Extra: Describe another way of scoring that is fair for this game of differences. Explain how you know it is fair.

[A mathematician would consider a game to be fair if all players have an equal chance of winning.]

[Learn About Our Scoring System](#)