

LANDING ON MARS - LEVEL 1

SUBTASK 1

Travelling to Mars is neither simple nor entirely safe. You must prepare carefully if you are to succeed. You have just found out that the time of day you choose to try to land on Mars can be very important. There are large asteroid belts out there in space that move differently depending on the time of day you choose to travel! Luckily, you and the tardigrades have created a program that simulates (tests something using a computer program) the chance of colliding with asteroids at three different times.

Now your task Is to find out the time of day when you have the biggest chance of successfully landing on Mars without colliding with an asteroid. You are going to run your simulation at 12:00, 15:00 and 18:00, In the middle of the day, in the afternoon and in the evening.

Run the simulation 100 times for each of the times given. For each given time, you must document how many successful landing attempts the simulation shows and how many failed landing attempts the simulation shows.







SUBTASK 2

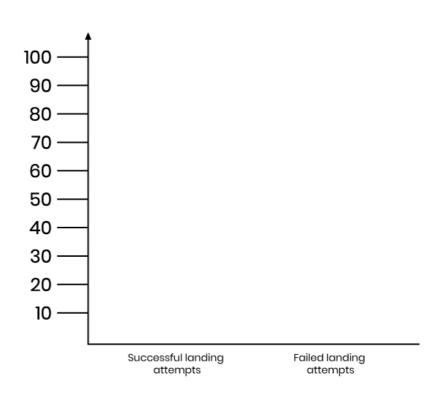
Ta-daaa! Now you know more about when it is safest to journey to Mars. However, you need to tell the other people who are going with you. To present and explain your results to, and convince, the others about when you need to travel, you need to convert all the figures you collected, called data, into a bar chart.

You task is to make a bar chart for all the different times, showing how many successful attempted landings and how many unsuccessful attempted landings were generated by the simulation in the previous subtask.

Instructions

For each time, create a bar for each outcome. This means for how many times the attempted landing succeeded or failed. So that this is as correct as possible, use a ruler when you measure how tall each bar should be. Write the time of the data that is presented on each bar chart.



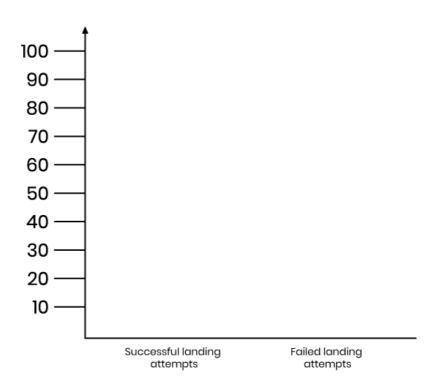








15:00

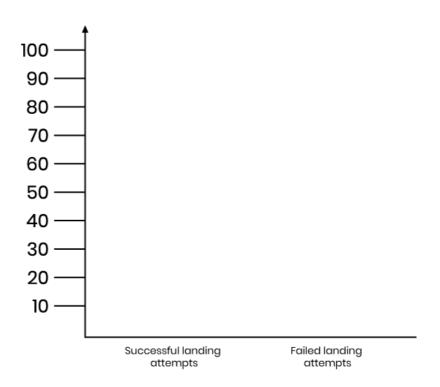


















SUBTASK 3

Great! Now you have collected data from the simulation and presented it as a bar chart. Using the bar chart, you can now say how much chance you have of a successful landing on Mars on three different occasions or, as we say, your probability of landing successfully.

Use your three bar charts to answer these questions:

- 1. At what time of day is the highest probability of a successful landing Mars?
- 2. At what time of day is the lowest probability of a successful landing Mars?

Write a short letter in which you tell your space buddies the time of day that you will travel to Mars. Use the data you gained using the simulation and explain, using the bar

- 3. If you add up all three times, how many times was the landing on Mars successful in your simulation?
- 4. If you add up all three times, how many times did the landing on Mars fail in your simulation?

them of which time has the highest probability of a successful landing on Mars, and how much greater the probability is at that time compared to the others!



