

Instant Messaging

- Explain how this problem is related to the “Social Networking” environment
- Have students come up with a list of 10 of their friends
- Assuming equal probability, have students calculate the probability that given friend on the list contacts them.
- Using the calculated probabilities, help students set up the Adjustable Spinner tool and let them run some simulations and make notes of their findings
- Talk about how in real world situations, probabilities are not always equally distributed.
- Have students classify the friends on their lists by their level of friendship (i.e., best friends, friends, etc) and assign probabilities to them, giving higher probabilities to their best friends.
- Help students set up the Adjustable Spinner tool using the new probabilities.
- Have run the experiment again and make note of their findings