

_____ loves M&M's!

M&M's and Confidence Intervals!

*Please **DO NOT** eat your M&M's until we are done with the entire activity 😊*

Part I: Use Confidence Intervals to estimate the true proportion of each color.

You should have a medium (~10-16 oz.) bag of M&M's and a container to hold your M&M's. You will use random samples of M&M's from your bag to calculate 90% confidence intervals to estimate the true proportion of each color produced.



1. **Just for fun!** Before you open your package:

(M&M's come in six colors: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, brown)

Guess which color occurs most often: _____

Guess which color occurs least often: _____

2. Now open your package. Take out a random sample of **40** M&M's. Record the number and proportion for each color in the space provided below. Then use your chart of 90% boxplots for samples of size **40** to generate a 90% confidence interval for the true proportion of each color in the bag. Put those **40** back and shuffle. Repeat this process with another SRS of **40**.

| Trial #1 (n₁ = 40) | Number | Proportion \hat{p} | 90% CI | Trial #2 (n₂ = 40) | Number | Proportion \hat{p} | 90% CI |
|--|--------|-------------------------|--------|--|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| Red | | | | Red | | | |
| Orange | | | | Orange | | | |
| Yellow | | | | Yellow | | | |
| Green | | | | Green | | | |
| Blue | | | | Blue | | | |
| Brown | | | | Brown | | | |

3. The actual proportions (for your type of M&M's) according to the Mars Company are:

Red: _____ Orange: _____ Yellow: _____ Green: _____ Blue: _____ Brown: _____

4. Based on the factory proportions given in #3, write Y(yes, captured) or N (no, not captured) for each color if the true proportions were captured by the calculated interval. Do this for both trials.

Trial 1: Red _____ Orange _____ Yellow _____ Green _____ Blue _____ Brown _____

Trial 2: Red _____ Orange _____ Yellow _____ Green _____ Blue _____ Brown _____

How many times out of 12 did you capture the true proportion? _____/12 **Let's compare results with the entire class. What success rate is this? Why?**

5. Choose a Confidence Interval from the table above. Interpret that CI in the context of this situation.

6. Write a statement explaining what a Confidence Interval tells us about the population.

Part II: Use Confidence Intervals to estimate the number of M&M's in the entire bag.

1. Let's say you "tagged" a group of M&M's. Devise a system for "tagging" them so that when they are put back into the population you can tell they were originally "tagged." (Hint: M&M's are already different colors!) **We choose:** _____

2. How many of the chosen "tagged" color are in the entire bag? $T =$ _____

3. Write how many of the chosen "tagged" color you got in your two samples of **40**.

Trial #1 there were _____ and Trial #2 there were _____

4. Set up a proportion with the number of "tagged" color T and \hat{p} from **Trial #1** to find an estimate for the number of M&M's in your entire bag.

$N_1 =$ _____

5. Repeat the process in #4 with **Trial #2**.

$N_2 =$ _____

6. Write the CI you found from **Trial #1** for the “tagged” color: _____

Use $T = \frac{\text{tagged}}{\text{total}}$ to solve for a CI to estimate the true number of M&M's in the bag. You will have to solve two proportions, one for each endpoint of the CI.

$CI_1 =$ _____

7. Repeat the process in #6 with **Trial #2**.

Write the CI you found from **Trial #2** for the “tagged” color: _____

Use $T = \frac{\text{tagged}}{\text{total}}$ to solve for a CI to estimate the true number of M&M's in the bag. You will have to solve two proportions, one for each endpoint of the CI.

$CI_2 =$ _____

8. Now **COUNT** all of the M&M's in your bag! $N_{\text{bag}} =$ _____

9. Does the total number of M&M's in your bag (N_{bag}) fall within your CIs from #6 and #7?
How many times out of two did you capture the true amount in your bag? _____/2

Let's compare results with the entire class. What success rate is this? Why?

10. NOW YOU CAN EAT YOUR M&M's!!!!!! 😊