

"It would be so nice to have a beautiful singing voice like other birds in the forest," sighed Crow.



The next day, Crow flapped down to the mailbox. An invitation from her friend Aesop (EE-sop) was waiting. As Crow opened the invitation, she said to herself, "Prizes at the Fable Fair? Maybe I can win a new singing voice. Then I would enjoy singing with the other birds." The day of the fair arrived. All of the games were popular, but the most popular was the Strength-O-Meter. This Strength-O-Meter was different from most.

## Strength-O-Meter Rules

1 If your score ends in a 1, 2, 3, or 4, round down to the nearest 10. A 10 is the number that ends in a 0.

2 If your score ends with a 5, 6, 7, or 9, round up to the nearest 10.

> 3 If your score ends with a 0, then you don't need to round at all. You're already at the nearest 10.

Everyone had to round numbers to the nearest 10 to earn prizes. Before beginning, Aesop read the Strength-O-Meter rules. Crow could hardly wait. She knew she was strong enough to hit a 30. Then she would have a new singing voice.





First, Hare stepped up and gave his most powerful swing. He was sure he would get a high score. But the meter only rose to 11.

"11 ends in a 1, so I'll have to round down to 10," said Hare. He was still happy to have a bushel of carrots as his prize. Grasshopper was next. She took a deep breath, hit the meter hard, and watched it rise to 24.



"24 ends in a 4. That means I will round down to 20." Grasshopper still felt lucky to have a warm winter home as her prize.

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Ant took the next turn. He gave a powerful swing and saw the meter rise to 18. "Hooray! 18 ends in an 8. I can round up to 20 and win a vacation!" exclaimed Ant. Ant walked away dreaming of lazy days at the beach, with no work in sight.





Ant and Grasshopper could both enjoy rest without worrying about the winter. Fox's strength, according to the meter, was 33. He swished his tail as he said, "33, I should round down to 30 since 33 ends in a 3."

He trotted away drooling over the fancy meal he was going to enjoy. Now he wouldn't have to trick Crow into dropping her cheese. He would have his own food.



Next, Crow swooped down to take a swing. The meter rose to 12.

Crow was unhappy she hadn't scored higher. She tried to take the prize she wanted anyway. "Hooray, a new singing voice for me," said Crow.

"Oh no," said Aesop. "A singing voice is the prize for 30, and you scored a 12. You must round down to 10 and choose from those prizes."





Since Hare already had the bushel of carrots, Crow took the running shoes. "What am I going to do with running shoes? I'm a BIRD, I don't run, I FLY. These shoes won't help me sing either."

Next, Dog stepped up. He placed his paws just right and gave the Strength-O-Meter a try. DING! It hit 50! Dog had scored the highest number possible. He chose the gift of wisdom as his prize. Now he would never again be fooled by his own reflection in the water.



Tortoise crawled to the Strength-O-Meter, wishing there was a prize to make him quicker. He gave a gentle swing. The meter rose to 28. "28 ends in an 8, so I will round to 30. Since Fox already chose the fancy meal, I suppose I'll take a new voice as my prize."



"Crow, why don't you trade your shoes with Tortoise for his new voice?" asked Dog. Dog was already using his gift of wisdom to help his friends.



Tortoise and Crow traded prizes.

Crow flew high into the air, singing with her new voice, while Tortoise ran as fast as he could below her.



Perhaps Dog was the happiest. He knew that being with his friends was the best prize of all.

Aesop smiled. The Fable Fair was a success.

## Math & Science

Rounding

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