Likely outcomes

Throw one coin 20 times. Keep a tally.

H	⫟⫟⫟ IIII
T	⫟⫟⫟ ⫟⫟⫟ I

Put your results on a bar graph.

What do you notice?

Heads and tails come up roughly the same number of times because there are only two possible outcomes and they are equally likely.
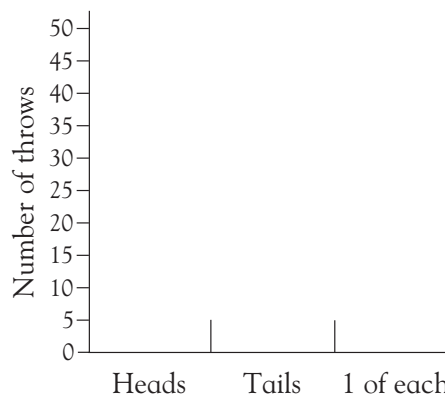
Predict what you think the outcome will be if you tossed two coins 48 times.

2 heads _____ times   2 tails _____ times   1 of each _____ times

Now actually throw two coins 48 times and record your results on this tally chart.

2 Heads	
2 Tails	
1 of each	

Draw a bar graph to show your results.

Which result comes up the most often?

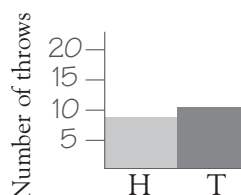Can you explain why some results are more probable than others?

Likely outcomes

Throw one coin 20 times.

Keep a tally.

H	✝✝✝ ✝✝✝
T	✝✝✝ ✝✝✝	

Put your results on a bar graph.

What do you notice?

Heads and tails come up roughly the same number of times because there are only two possible outcomes and they are equally likely.
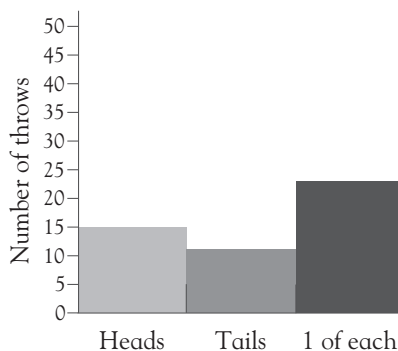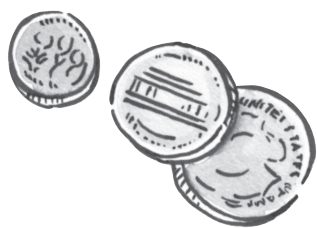
Predict what you think the outcome will be if you tossed two coins 48 times.

2 heads varies times   2 tails varies times   1 of each varies times

Now actually throw two coins 48 times and record your results on this tally chart.

2 Heads	✝✝✝ ✝✝✝ ✝✝✝
2 Tails	✝✝✝ ✝✝✝ ‖
1 of each	✝✝✝ ✝✝✝ ✝✝✝ ✝✝✝	

Draw a bar graph to show your results.

Which result comes up the most often?   one of each

Can you explain why some results are more probable than others?

The child's answer should explain that there are four possible outcomes and that 'one of each' has a two-in-four chance of coming up.

Childrens' predictions in the first question may be considerably different from the result. Once the work is done, check that children use the experience to improve their understanding of likely outcomes. The tally chart may differ from the one shown here.