

Batting Average 1: Comparing Stats

Activity	Time	Description
Activity 1	40 minutes	Youth explore baseball cards and learn about batting average. Youth compare batting averages of different players and order the batting averages from least to greatest.
Activity 2	20 minutes	Youth will reflect on mistakes they have made recently, and learn about how mistakes make their brains grow!



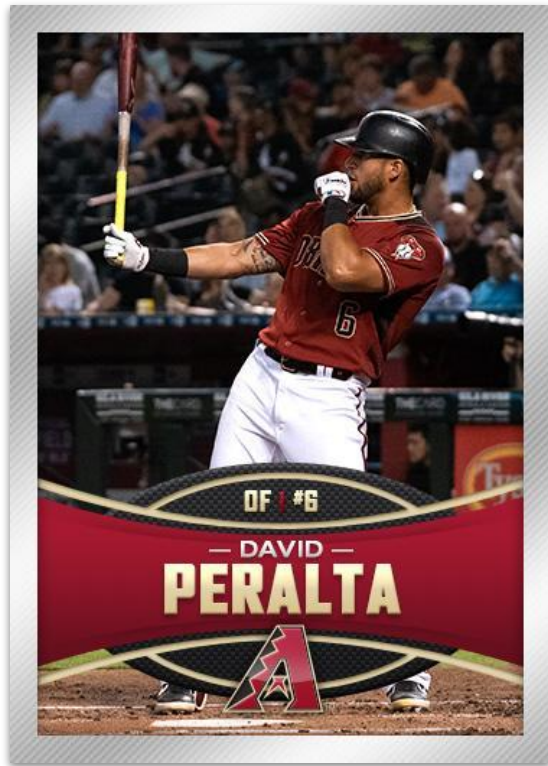
Batting Average 1: Comparing Stats

What does this quote mean to you?
What message is Michael Jordan trying to send?

I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game-winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed.
-Michael Jordan

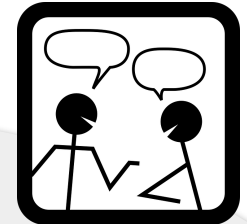


John Swart/Encyclopædia Britannica



DAVID PERALTA OF		#6													
<i>Ht: 6'3 Wt: 245 Bats: Right Throws: Right</i> <i>Born: 8-14-87, Valencia, Venezuela</i>															
Signed by D-backs as a Minor League free agent (July 3, 2013). He and his wife, Jordan, welcomed their first child, Sofia, on Aug. 14, 2017, also David's 30th birthday. Has a cat named Maximus. Named after a character from his favorite movie, "Gladiator."															
YR	TEAM	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	SB	BB	SO	SLG	AVG	
15	D-BACKS	109	462	61	144	26	9	8	78	6	44	107	.450	.312	
16	D-BACKS	159	567	103	182	38	2	33	110	21	118	151	.570	.321	
17	D-BACKS	158	579	106	172	33	3	24	95	32	110	150	.489	.297	
18	D-BACKS	155	558	117	166	34	3	36	120	18	94	147	.563	.297	
MLB TOTALS 2013-2018		578	2080	288	614	110	32	74	277	29	159	433	.486	.293	
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Look at your baseball card for a FIELD PLAYER.



- Can you find the player's team?
- Can you find the player's position?
- What other important information do you see on the card?
- What information is given with whole numbers? With decimals?

Share what you notice with a partner.

Reading the Back of a Baseball Card

AB means “AT BATS”

This is the number of times the player comes to the plate and this results in a hit, or an error, or a non-sacrifice out.

H means “HITS”

This is the number of times the player hit the ball and did not get out.


What do you notice about your player’s **AB** and **H**?

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Comparing Baseball Statistics



Discuss with a partner.

Compare the **AT BATS (AB)** and the **HITS (H)** on your cards.

Why are AB different than H?

Which player has more at bats?

Which player has more hits?

Which player has the **most Hits (H)** of all the players in the room?

Which player has the **most At Bats (AB)** of all the players in the room?



AVG or BA means “Batting Average”

You find the batting average by dividing the number of “Hits” by the number of “At Bats”

$$\text{Batting Average} = \frac{\text{Hits}}{\text{Atbats}}$$

What is your player’s **AVG or BA?**

- What year did Peralta have the highest batting average?
- Is your player’s batting average higher or lower than Peralta’s?

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Batting Average = $\frac{\text{Hits}}{\text{Atbats}}$

Suzie got 4 hits, out of 10 at bats.
What is her batting average?

$$\frac{4}{10} = 0.4 \text{ or } 0.400$$

4 tenths 400 thousandths



Andre got 3 hits, out of 10 at bats.
What is his batting average?

$$\frac{3}{10} = 0.3 \text{ or } 0.300$$

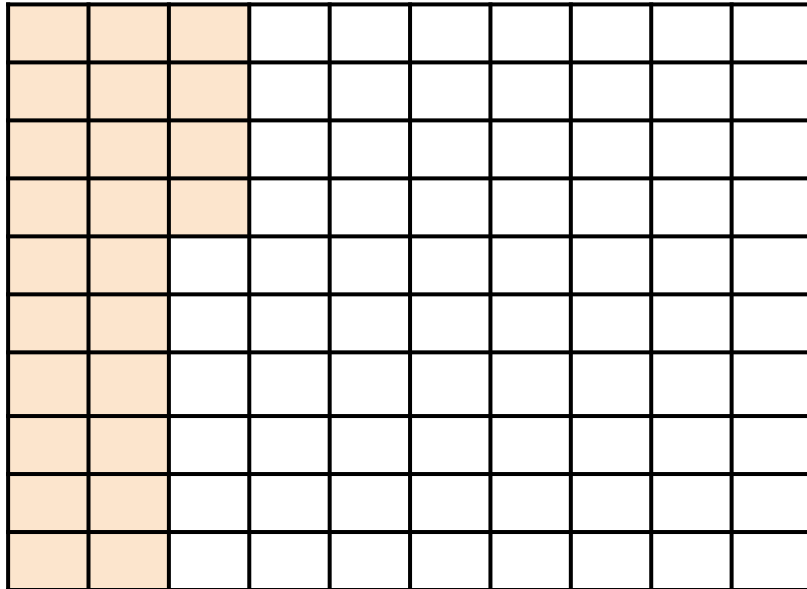
3 tenths 300 thousandths



Emmet has 24 hits of 100 at bats.
What is his batting average?

$$\frac{\underline{24}}{100} = 0.24 = 0.240$$

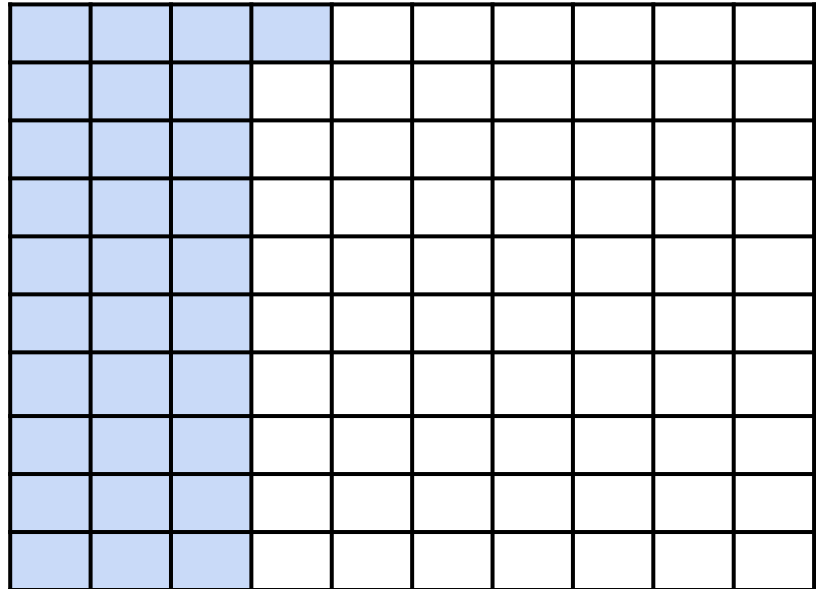
24 hundredths 240 thousandths



Selena has 31 hits of 100 at bats.
What is her batting average?

$$\frac{\underline{31}}{100} = 0.31 = 0.310$$

31 hundredths 310 thousandths



Small Group Activity: Batting Average Line Up

Each person needs 1 baseball card.

Find each player's most recent Batting Average.

Place your baseball player cards in order from the **Least/Lowest Batting Average** to the **Greatest/Highest Batting Average**.

Record your Line Up on Worksheet 1.

Intro to Batting Average

Worksheet 1 - Batting Average Line Up

Record the Batting Averages of your players in order from least to greatest.

Batting Average: _____	Batting Average: _____	Batting Average: _____	Batting Average: _____	Batting Average: _____	Batting Average: _____
Least			→ Greatest		

What was the **LOWEST** batting average in your group of players? _____

What was the **HIGHEST** batting average in your group of players? _____

What was the **difference** between the Lowest and the Highest batting average? _____

Look at the other statistics for your players, such as Hits (H) and Home Runs (HR). Do you think the player with the best batting average is the best player in your group? Why or why not?

The best player in our group is _____
because _____

15

Worksheet 1

Player 1

BA: _____

Lowest Batting Average

Player 2

BA: _____

Player 3

BA: _____

Player 4

BA: _____

Player 5

BA: _____

Player 6

BA: _____

Highest Batting Average

Small Group Activity: Batting Average Line Up

Player 1

BA: _____

Player 2

BA: _____

Player 3

BA: _____

Player 4

BA: _____

Player 5

BA: _____

Player 6

BA: _____

Lowest Batting
Average

Highest Batting
Average

Is the player with the highest batting average the “best” player?

Look at the other player statistics on your baseball cards such as the Hits and Home Runs.

Decide which of the players on your baseball cards is the “best” player and record your reasons on **Worksheet 1**.

Intro to Batting Average

Worksheet 1 - Batting Average Line Up

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Worksheet 1

Activity 1

Whole Group Activity: Batting Average Line Up

STEP 1: Who has the player with the lowest batting average?



STEP 2: Who has the player with the highest batting average?

Whole Group Activity: Batting Average Line Up

Step 3: Who has a player with a batting average that is greater than 0.200?

Who has a player with a batting average that is greater than the Lowest Batting Average, but still less than 0.225?

Who has a player with a batting average that is less than the Highest Batting Average, but still above 0.275?



Who has a player with a batting average between 0.200 and 0.250?

Who has a player with a batting average between 0.250 and 0.300?



- What does batting average mean? How is it calculated?
- What is considered a “good” batting average in baseball? a “typical” batting average?
- Can you think of other situations where we use averages?

Grade 6-8 Extensions

- Pick 1 player from the Dodgers
- Use Division to find their batting average in April 22, in May 22 and all season
 - Divide the number of HITS by the number of AT BATS

2022 April	Mookie Betts (Dodgers) At Bats: 74 Hits: 17	Trea Turner (Dodgers) At Bats: 76 Hits: 21	Freddie Freeman (Dodgers) At Bats: 77 Hits: 23
2022 May	Mookie Betts At Bats: 114 Hits: 31	Trea Turner At Bats: 115 Hits: 36	Freddie Freeman At Bats: 111 Hits: 34
2022 All Season	Mookie Betts At Bats: 572 Hits: 154	Trea Turner At Bats: 652 Hits: 194	Freddie Freeman At Bats: 612 Hits: 199

Grade 6-8 Extensions

Compare your answers to the correct answers below:

2022 April	Mookie Betts (Dodgers) AVG: .230	Trea Turner (Dodgers) AVG: .276	Freddie Freeman (Dodgers) AVG: .299
2022 May	Mookie Betts AVG: .342	Trea Turner AVG: .313	Freddie Freeman AVG: .306
2022 All Season	Mookie Betts AVG: .269	Trea Turner AVG: .298	Freddie Freeman AVG: .325

- What do you notice about the monthly batting averages? The all season average?



Grade 6-8 Extensions

- What do you notice about the monthly batting averages?
- What did you notice about the all season average?
- Does a player's average vary more at the beginning or end of the season? Why?
- If a player experiences a hitting streak, will it improve his current average more at the beginning, middle, or end of the season?



Mistakes are expected in baseball.

What kind of mistakes do you think batters make?

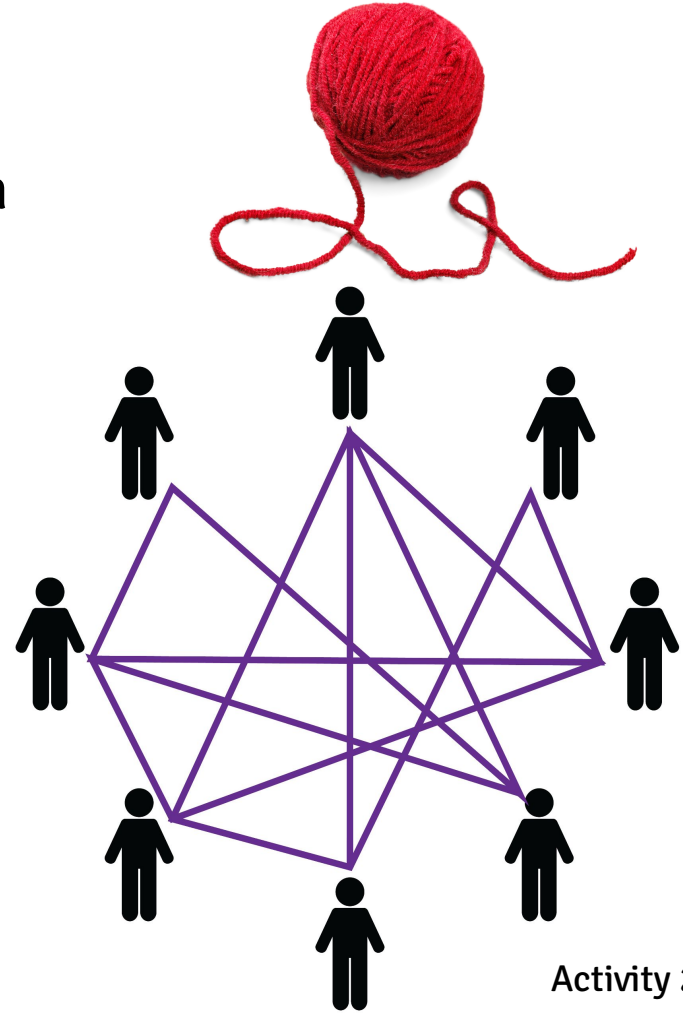
How do you think baseball players learn from their mistakes at bat?

How are batters' mistakes opportunities for learning?



Leslie Plaza Johnson/Icon Sportswire

- Stand in a circle with 5-6 peers. One person in your group will start with the ball of yarn.
- Next, you will listen to a scenario about a situation at school or in sports.
- As you listen, think about the mistake in the scenario and what the person could do or say or think to themselves to learn from the mistake.



Scenario #1

Keith had a hard night at baseball practice. He was working on his throw, and trying to throw faster to his teammate.

But his aim was off!

He threw the ball too wide, and then too short. He ended the practice and thought, “I keep messing up. I just can’t throw the ball.”

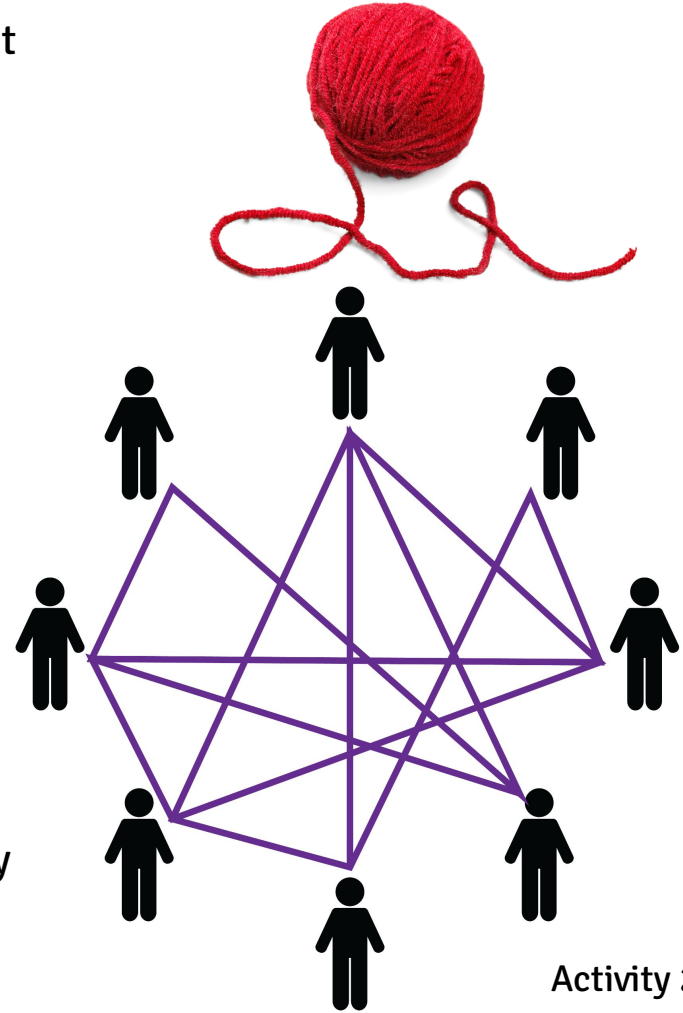
What should Keith do?



- The person holding the yarn will share one idea about what Keith could do or say or think to learn from the mistake.
- Next, the person with the ball of yarn will hold the end of the string, and pass the ball of yarn to another person in the group.
- Then that person shares a different idea about what Keith could do, or say, or think to learn from the mistake, and then holds the string and passes the ball of yarn to a new group member.
- Continue until 3 or 4 group members have shared ideas about Keith's scenario.

Then get ready for a new scenario!

- After each scenario, 3 or 4 group members will pass the yarn and then share ideas about what the person in the scenario could do or say to learn from the mistake.
- Remember to keep holding the yarn and to pass it carefully and slowly so that it does not fall.



Scenario #2

Nora was starting a new unit on percents in her math class. She thought she understood how to find percents when her teacher explained it during class, but when she started her homework she felt very confused.

None of her answers looked right.

Nora's older sister came by and said, "What? You don't know how to do percents? That's so easy!"

Nora felt even worse. She thought she would never understand percents.

What should Nora do?



Scenario #3

Mia's team needed one more out to end the inning and win the game. She was playing first base.

There were batters on second and third and the other team was trying to get a hit and score two more runs for the win.

The batter hit a line drive straight to Mia. This would be easy! She leaned in to catch the ball but it slipped out of her glove and the batter made it safe to first base. By the time Mia retrieved the ball, the other batters had reached home plate. Mia felt like it was all her fault. She missed the catch and her team lost the game. What should Mia do?



Scenario #4

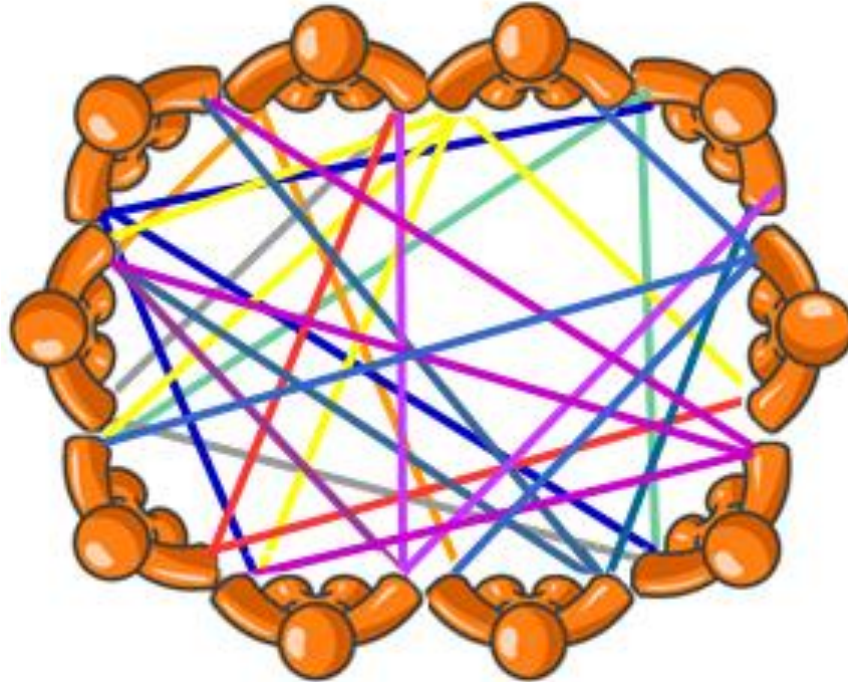
Julio was checking his math homework with his friend Henry. On the fraction addition problem, Henry had a different answer.

Julio was trying hard to figure out how to add the fractions, but this was a new concept and he still had a lot of questions. Henry told him, “just erase your answer and copy mine, then you’ll get it right!”
What should Julio do?



What do you notice about our web?

Many lines!



Lots of connections!

This is what happens in our BRAIN!

Mistakes help us make new connections and learn...

Watch How Our Brains Grow When We Make Mistakes!

Mindset Matters



Share with a partner:

What did you learn from this video?



What strategies can you use to learn and grow from mistakes in sports, or in school?