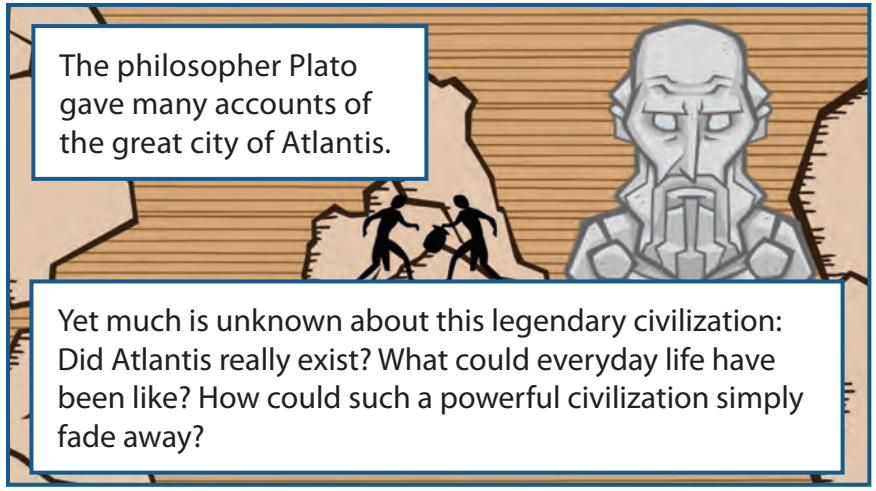
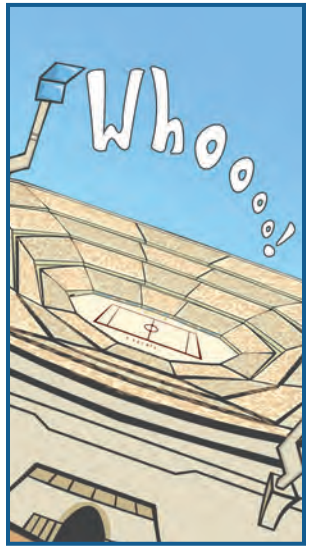
Atlantean Dodgeball

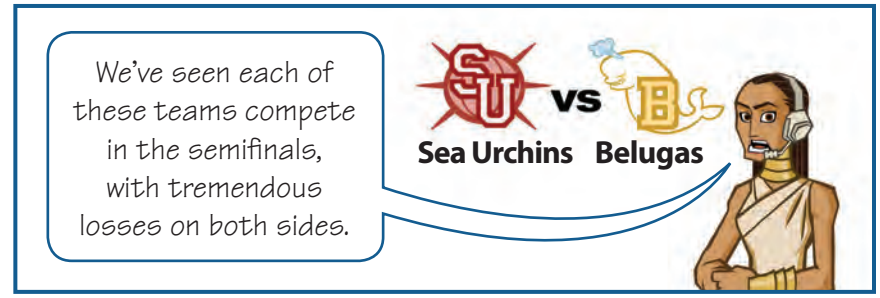
View the animation at http://www.mathsnacks.org

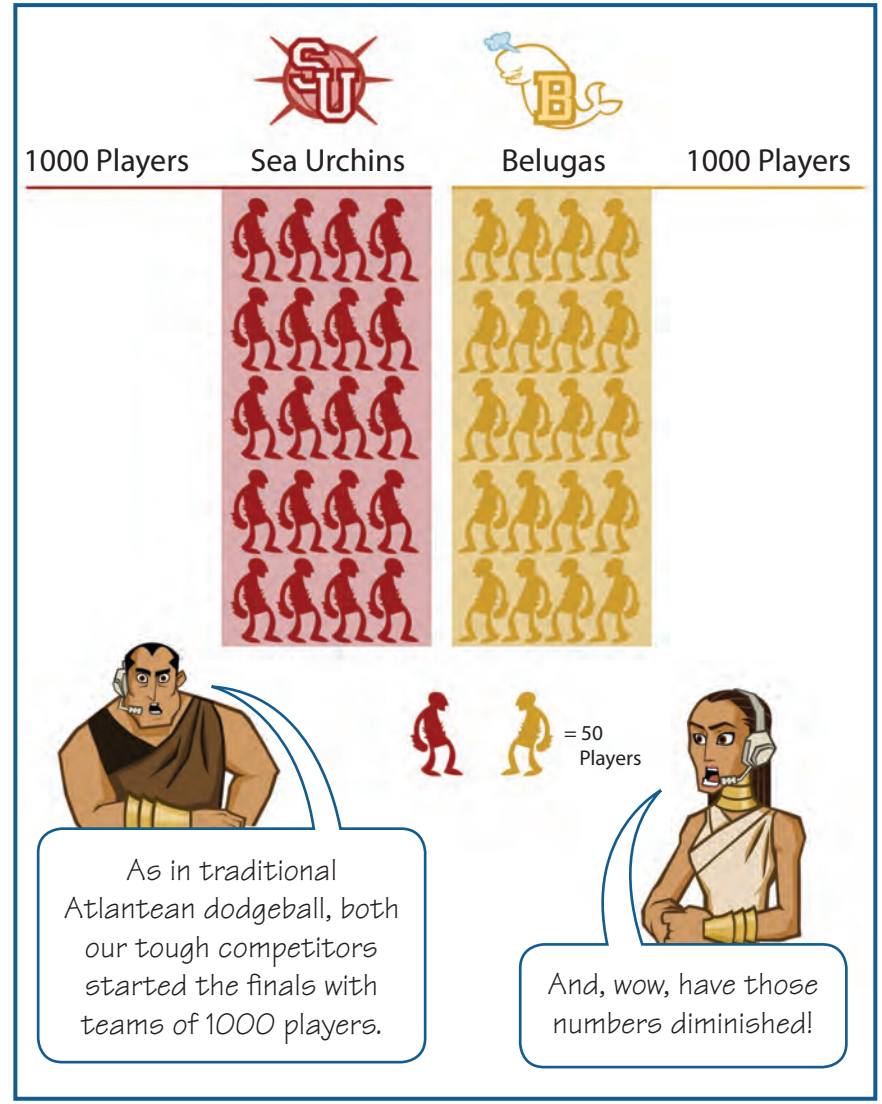


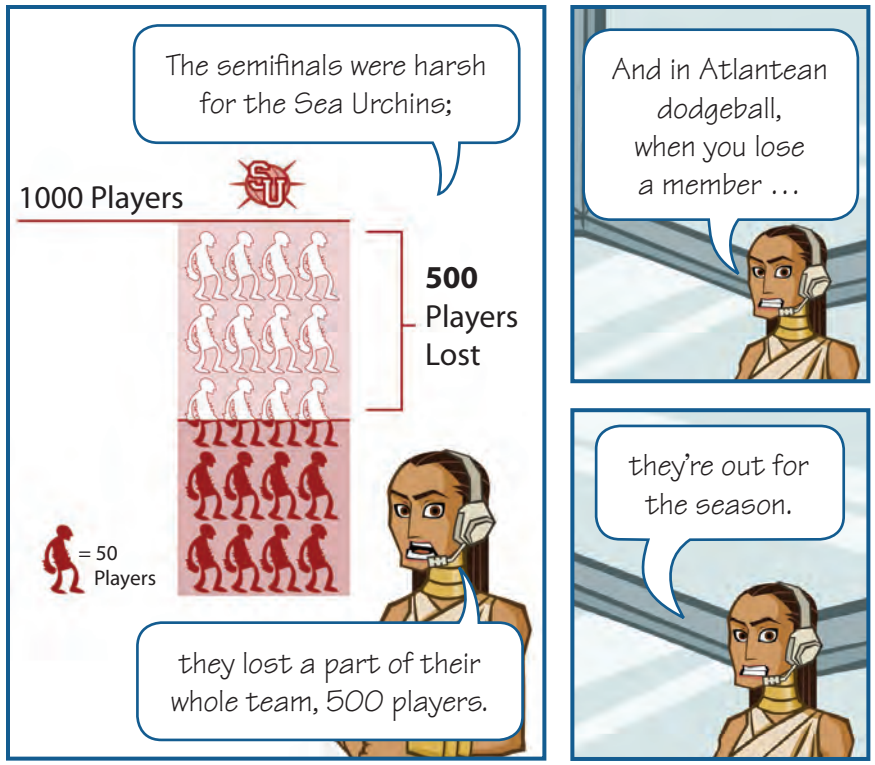


Math Snacks *Atlantean Dodgeball* Comic Book Transcript

Fold Here

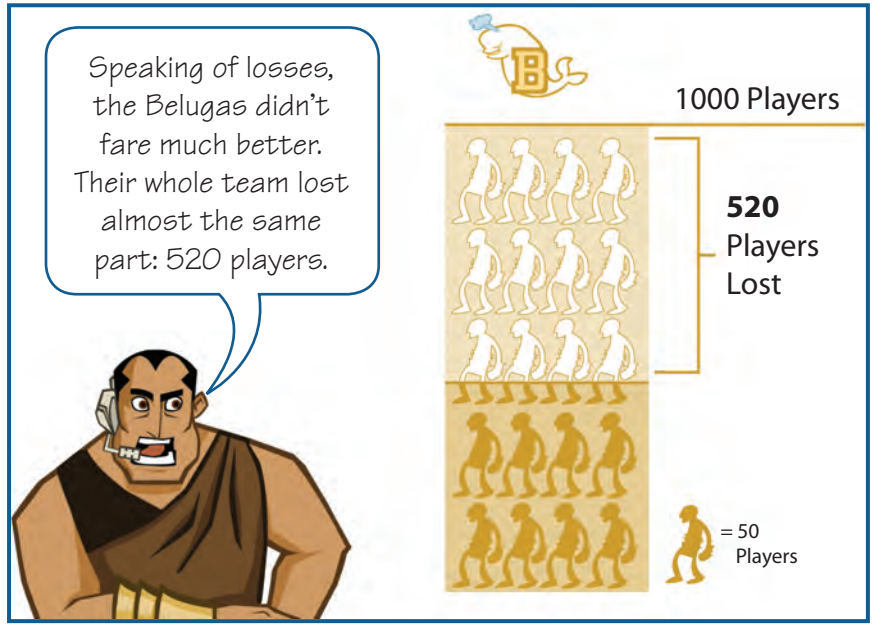




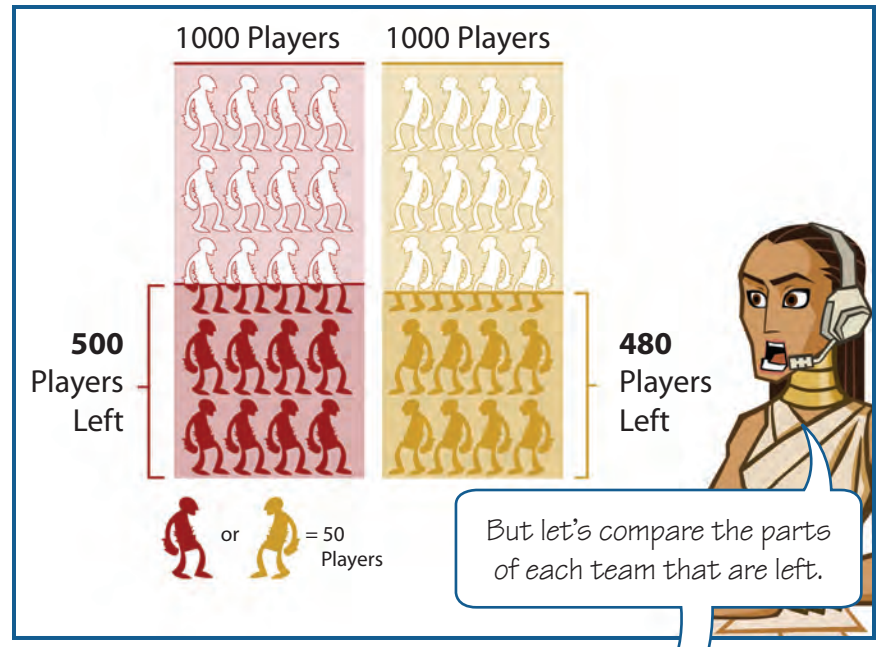

The semifinals were harsh for the Sea Urchins;
1000 Players
500 Players Lost
= 50 Players
they lost a part of their whole team, 500 players.

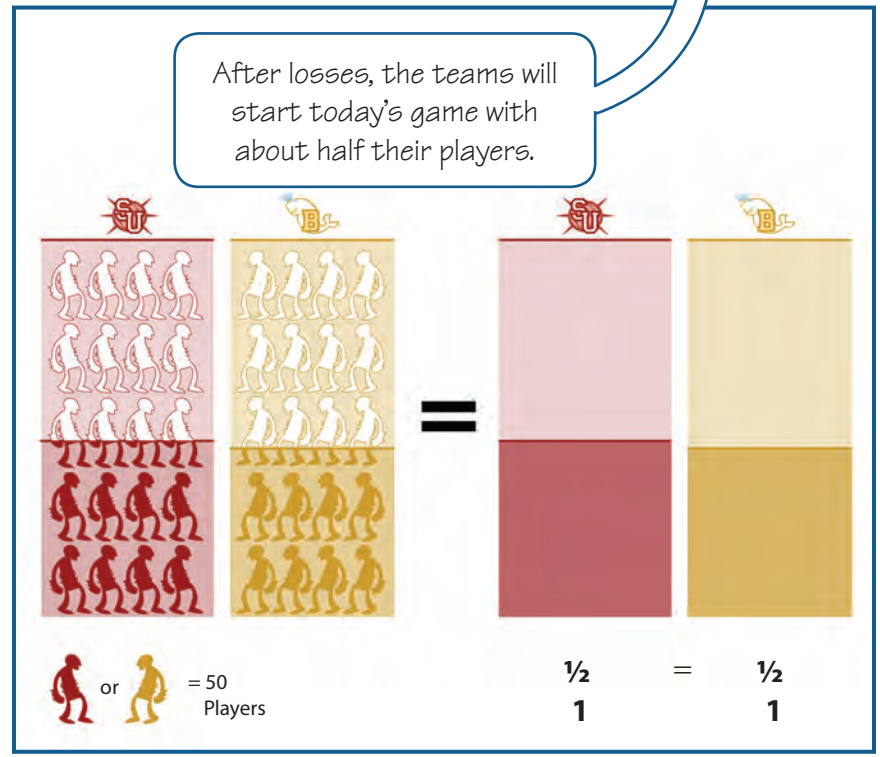
And in Atlantean dodgeball, when you lose a member …

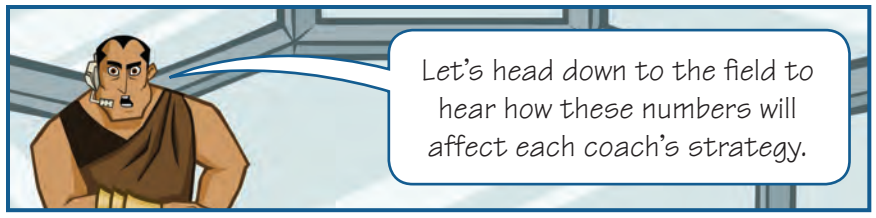
they're out for the season.


Speaking of losses, the Belugas didn't fare much better. Their whole team lost almost the same part: 520 players.
1000 Players
520 Players Lost
= 50 Players

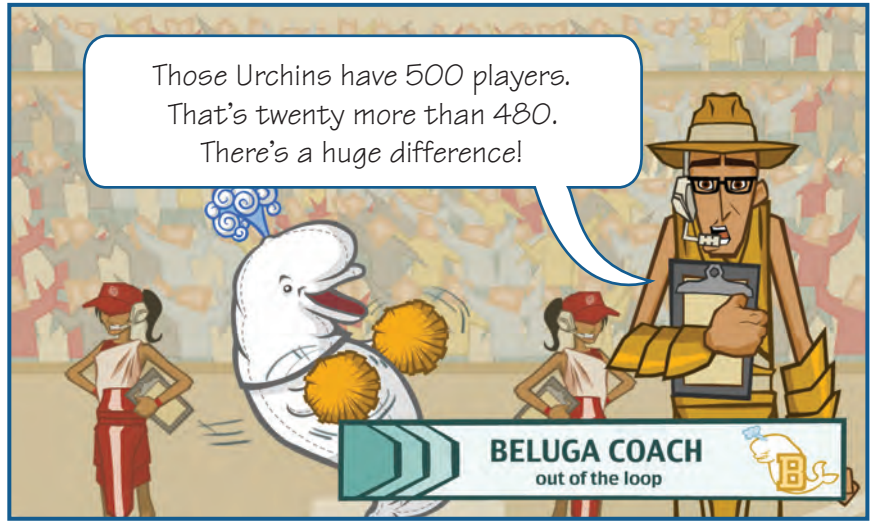
Fold Here


1000 Players
1000 Players
500 Players Left
480 Players Left
or
= 50 Players
But let's compare the parts of each team that are left.

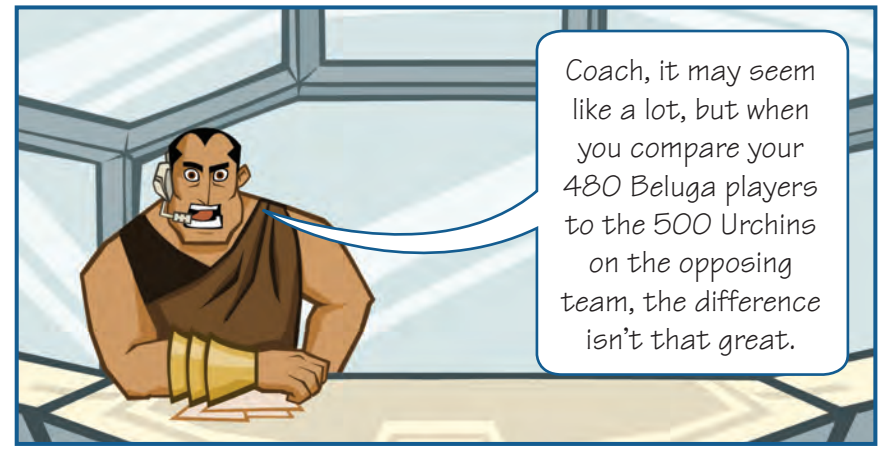

After losses, the teams will start today's game with about half their players.
or
= 50 Players
½ = ½
1 1


Let's head down to the field to hear how these numbers will affect each coach's strategy.

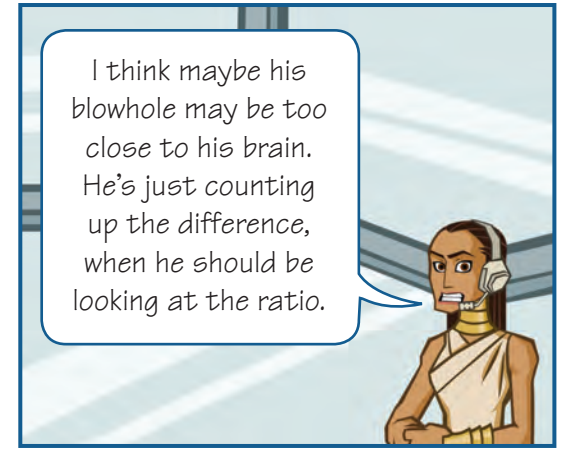
Those losses are yesterday's news.
We've got about a one-to-one ratio of Urchins to Belugas.
With odds this close we'll have to play a pretty tight game.
SEA URCHIN COACH
really knows his stuff


Those Urchins have 500 players. That's twenty more than 480. There's a huge difference!
BELUGA COACH
out of the loop

Fold Here


Coach, it may seem like a lot, but when you compare your 480 Beluga players to the 500 Urchins on the opposing team, the difference isn't that great.

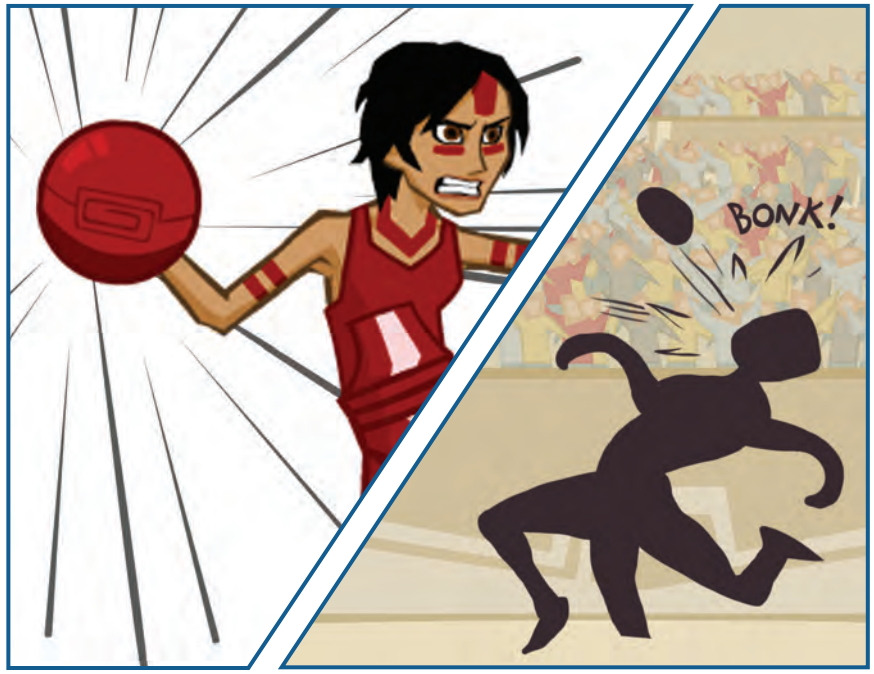
20 players! Argh!


I think maybe his blowhole may be too close to his brain. He's just counting up the difference, when he should be looking at the ratio.

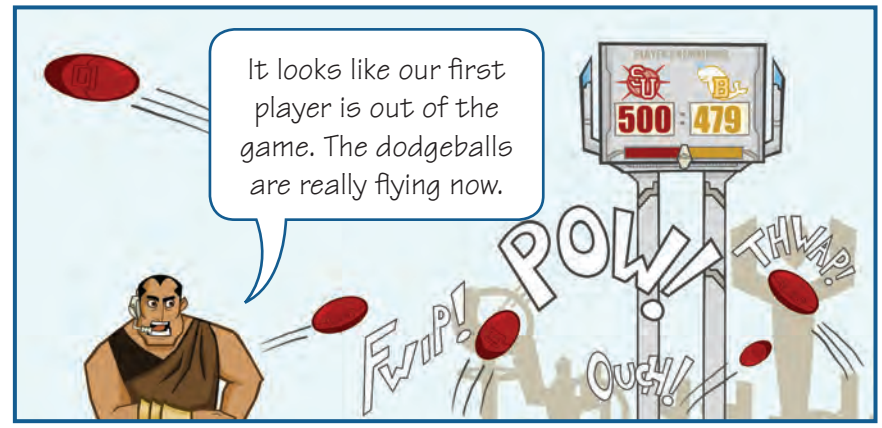
That's no way to motivate a team, but it looks like it's time to get those dodgeballs in the air.

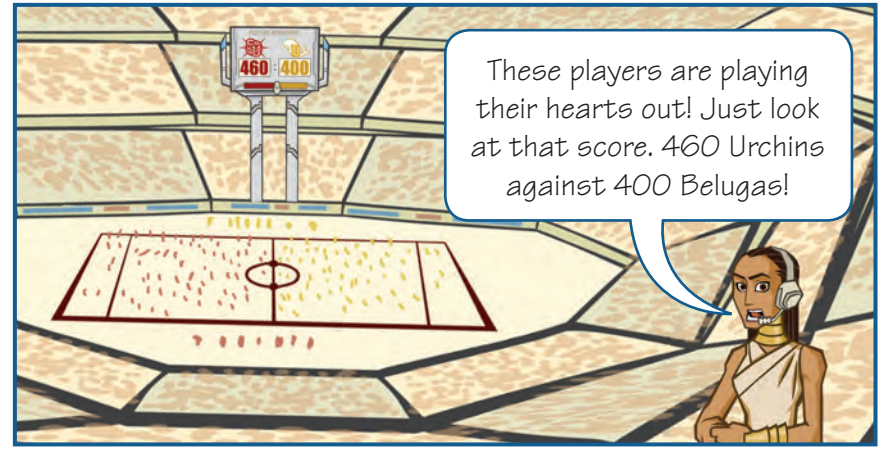
DA DA DA DUUUMM!
PLAYERS REMAINING
500 : 480

Grrr.
Grrr.
Grrr.
Grrr.
Grrr.

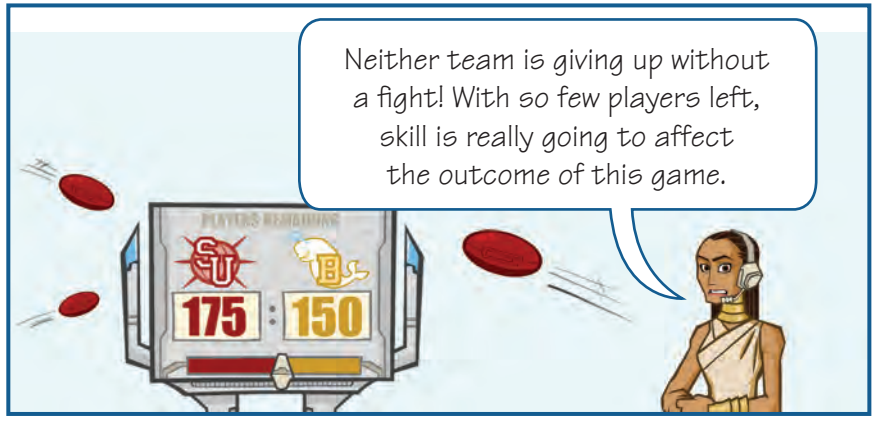

BONK!

Fold Here


It looks like our first player is out of the game. The dodgeballs are really flying now.
500 : 479
FWIP!
POW!
THWAP!
Ouch!


460 : 400
These players are playing their hearts out! Just look at that score. 460 Urchins against 400 Belugas!

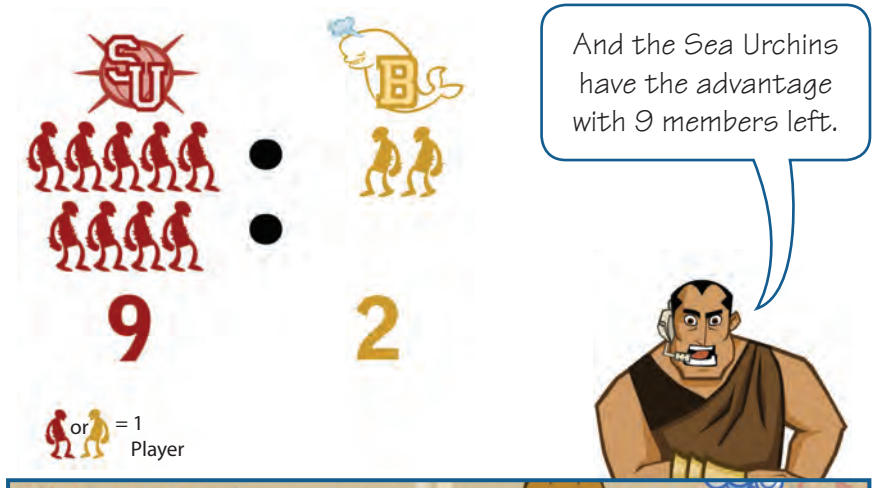
230 : 231
We're seeing these players drop like flies. The Urchins are now at 230 players while the Belugas are at 231. Looks like they really were closely matched!


Neither team is giving up without a fight! With so few players left, skill is really going to affect the outcome of this game.
175
150

BAM!

UR-CHINS!
UR-CHINS!
UR-CHINS!
BELOOOOGAS!
PLAYERS REMAINING
9
2
All that matters now is how many team members remain on each side.

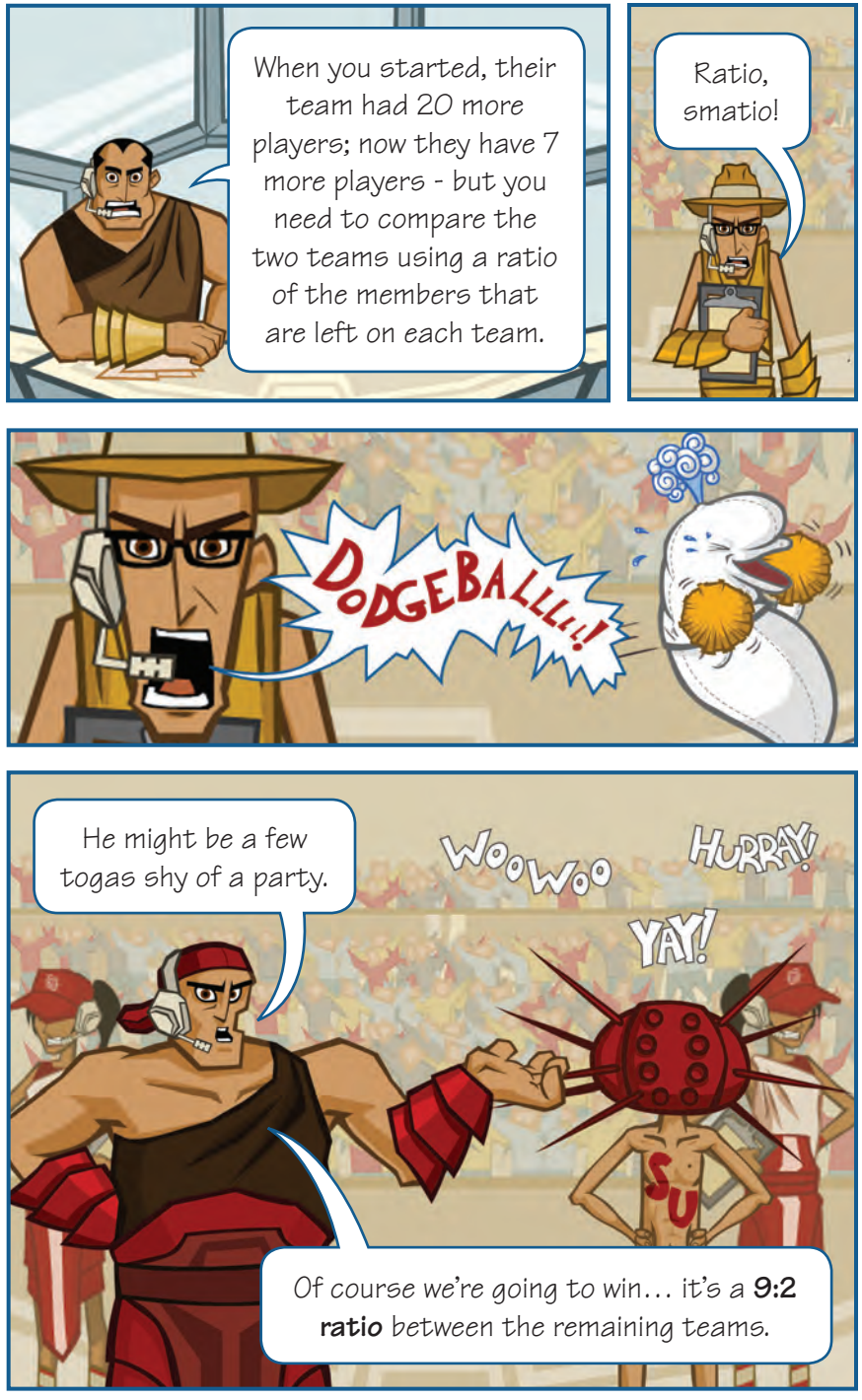
Fold Here


9
2
or = 1 Player
And the Sea Urchins have the advantage with 9 members left.

When we started this game they had 20 more players than we did. Now they have 7 more than we do.
BELUGA COACH
out of the loop

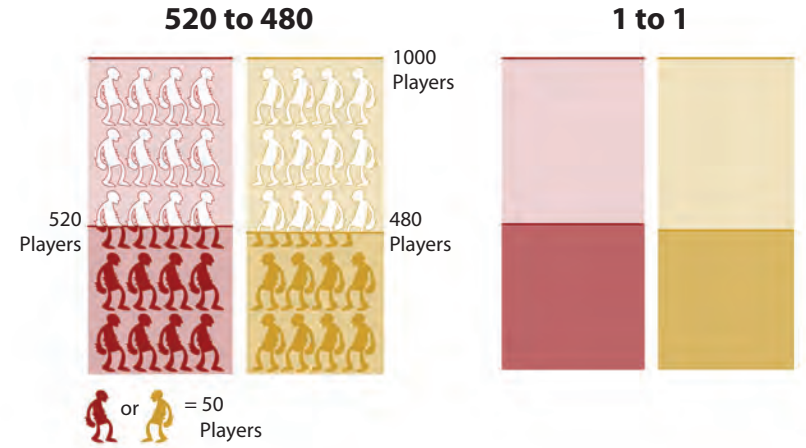
Our chances have improved!

Ummm. Coach… you're still looking at the difference.

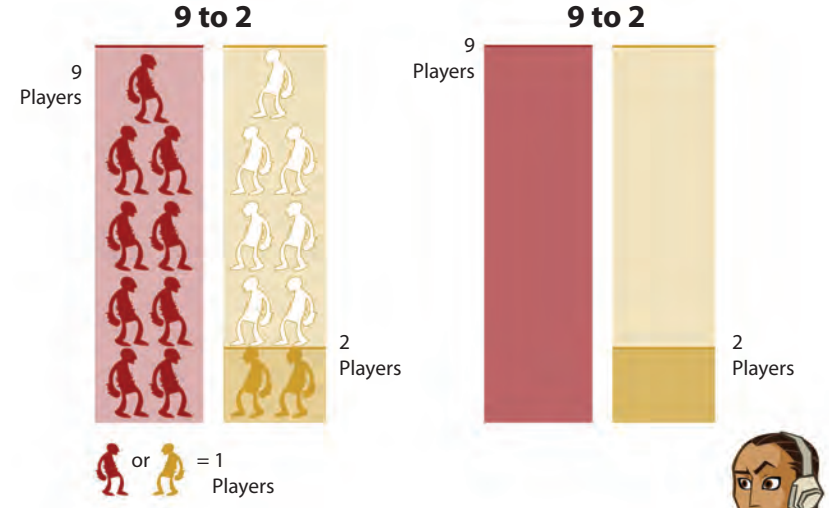


Fold Here

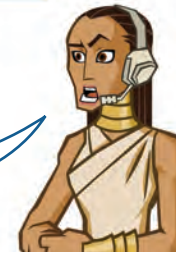
We started this game with an Urchin:Beluga ratio of about **1:1**.

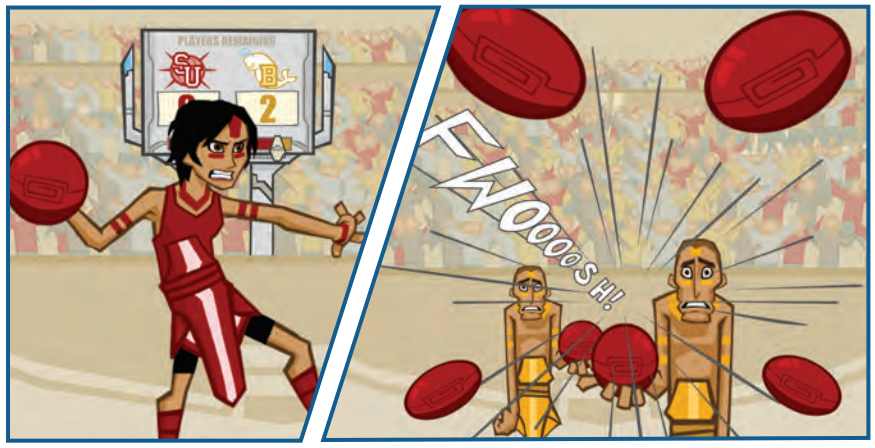


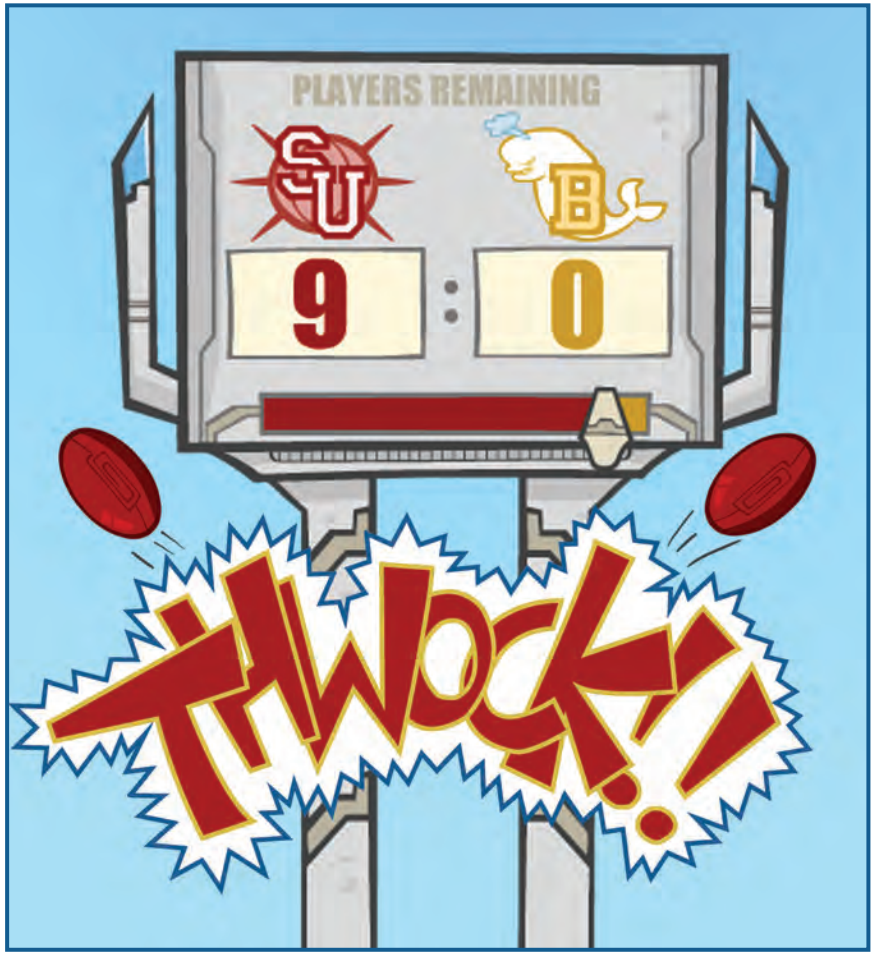
The ratio is now a staggering **9:2**.



No one can argue any longer that these teams are evenly matched.

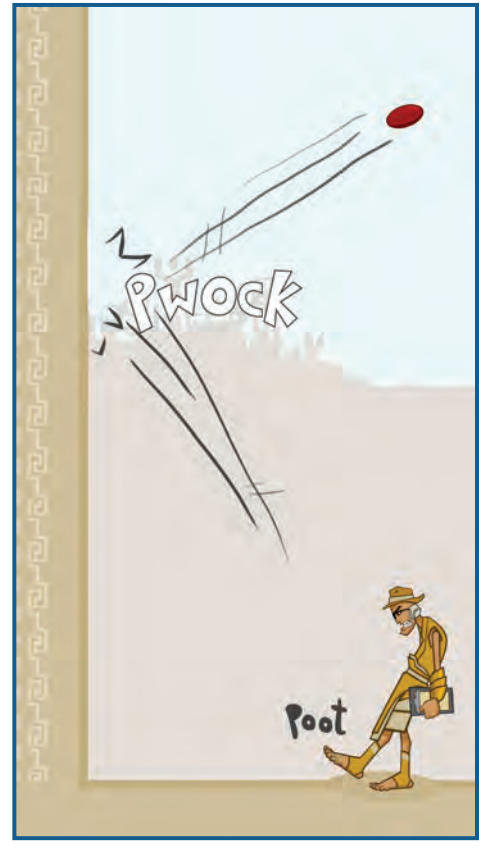


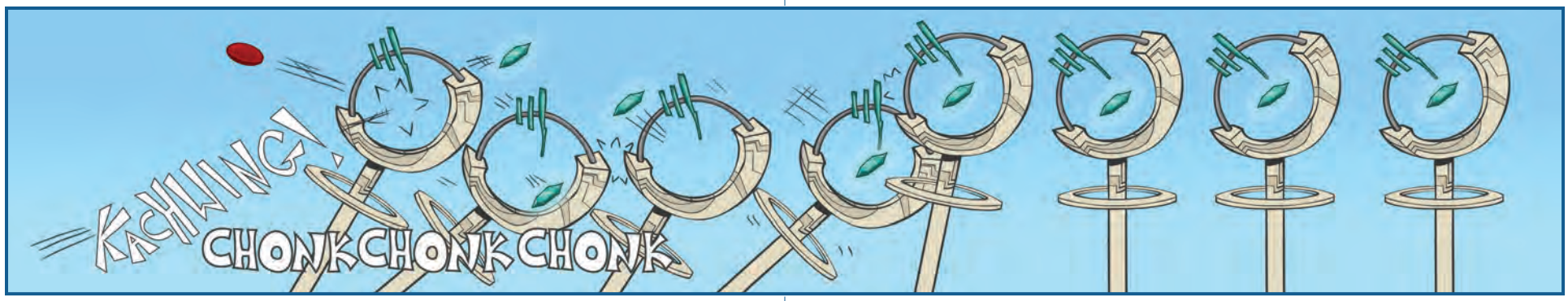

PLAYERS REMAINING
2
FWOOOOSH!

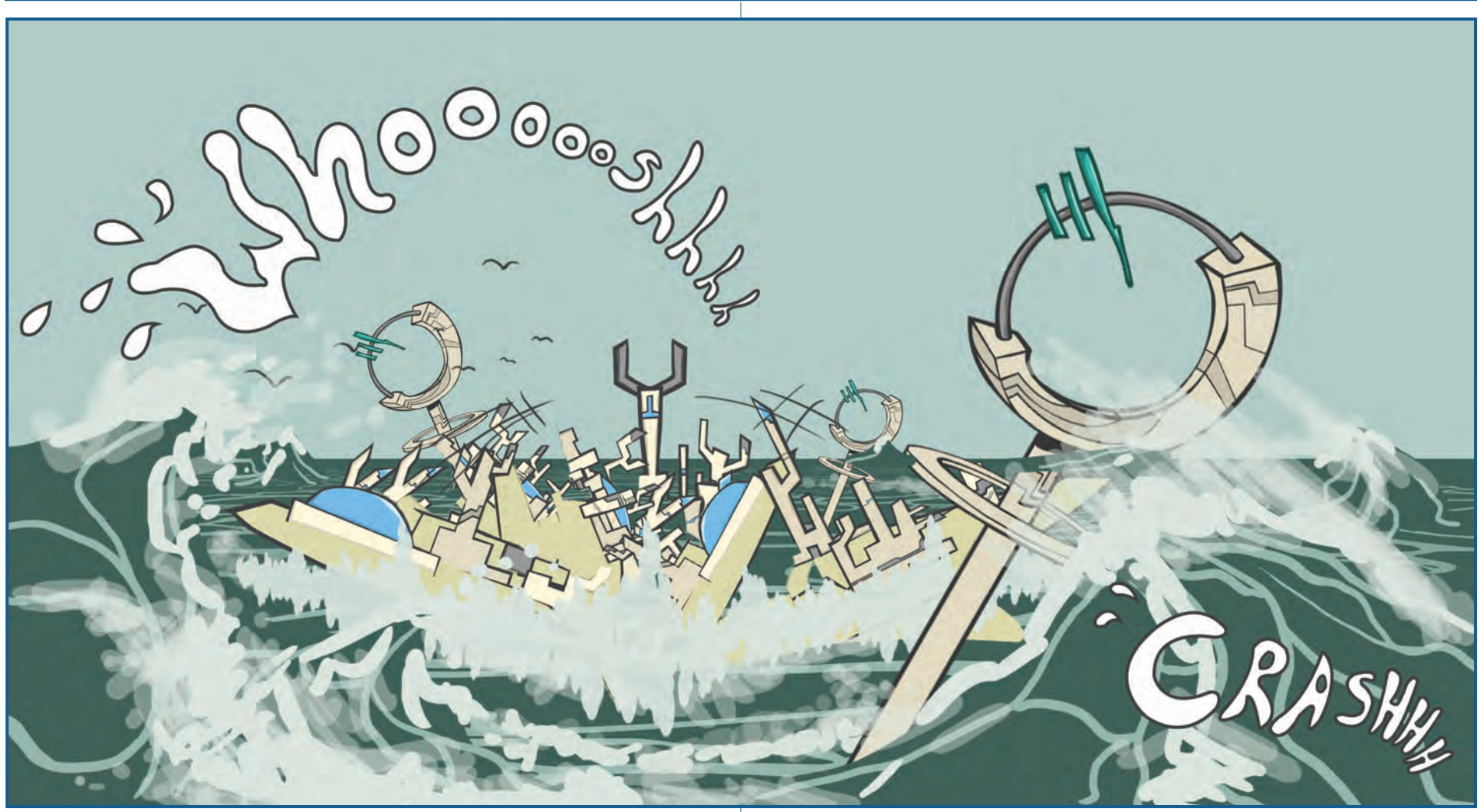

PLAYERS REMAINING
9
0
THWOCK!

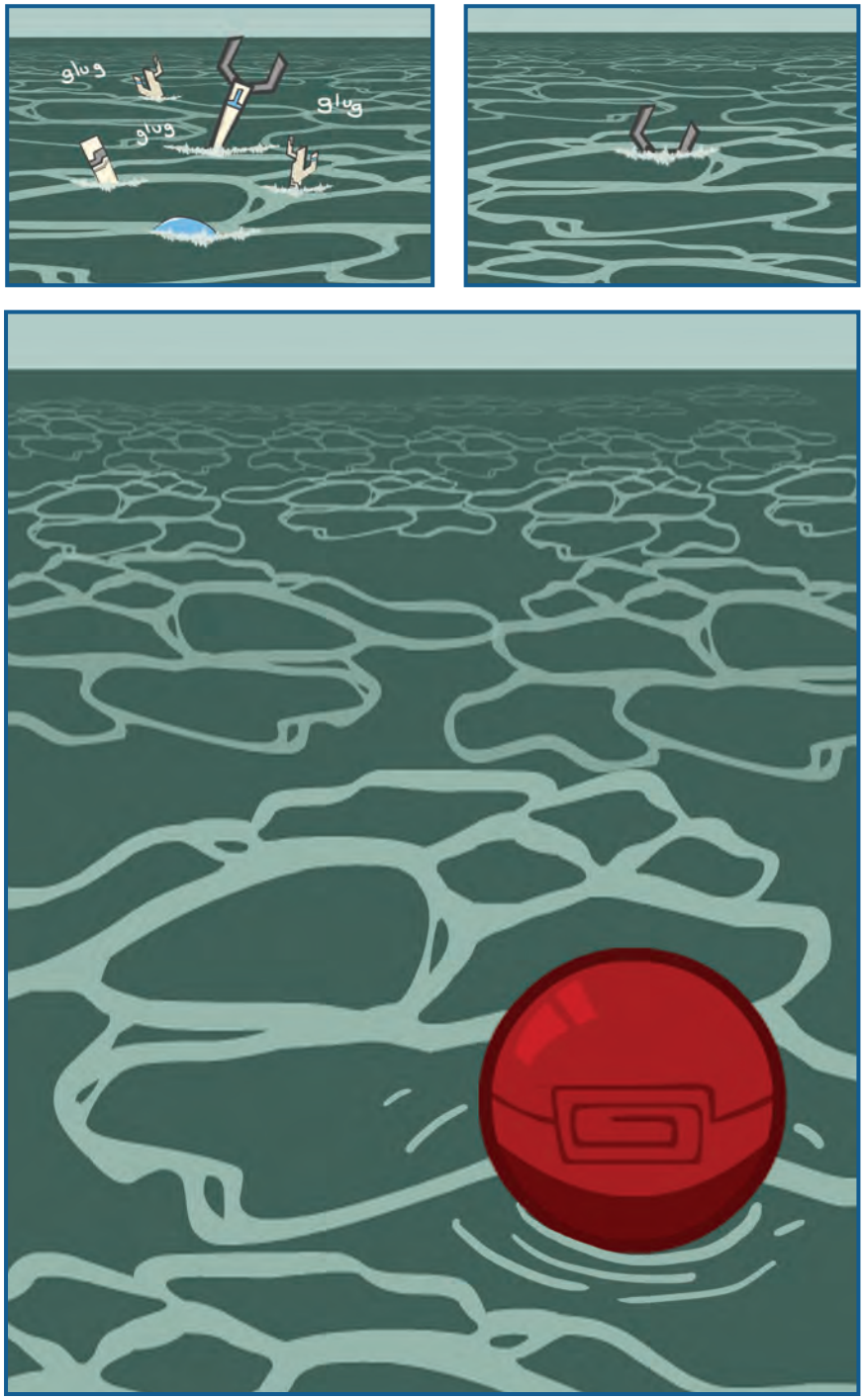
Fold Here

!!


PWOCK
Poot


KACHWING!
CHONKCHONKCHONK


WHOOOOOSHHH
CRASHH



Fold Here

Learning Games Lab
© 2012, NMSU Board of Regents. NMSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educator. "Math Snacks" materials were developed with support from the National Science Foundation (0918794). Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.