

# KNOW THE ODDS

## Do you gamble? You do, if you...

- bet on who will make the first shot in a basketball game.
- join a betting pool on pro football or even bet on your high school's players.
- play poker with your friends for money—even if it's only for pennies.
- bet on who will win a video game.
- bet on who a classmate is going to go out with.
- buy a lottery ticket.
- bet on who's going to get the highest grade on a test.
- bet on who's going to get the lead in the high school play.

**Because you are below the legal age to gamble, any type of gambling activity for money is illegal.**

## What should I know about gambling?

- Talk to your parents about gambling, even if you feel you may not have a problem.
- Have a conversation with your parents if you have any of the signs of a problem with gambling—withdrawal from friends and family, depression, anxiety, or changes in behavior.
- With your parents' help, see a professional to find out if there are psychological reasons for your gambling, such as being depressed.

## Do you know the odds? Let's look at the lottery:

- If you buy a lottery ticket that has a pool of 48 numbers, the probability of selecting the winning combination is 1 in 12,271,512. In other words, you have one chance in about 12.3 million of winning this lottery. You also are 99.99999185% likely to lose.
- Gambling of any kind is a game of odds. By design, the odds are always in favor of "the house," not you.



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**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS A PROBLEM WITH GAMBLING, YOU CAN CALL THE NATIONAL PROBLEM GAMBLING HELPLINE AT 1-800-522-4700.**