

Count a Preferential Election — Answers

Years 5–6 | Ages 8–13 with support | 40 minutes

Teacher / parent guide · Check reasoning as well as answers.

Target: 11 of 20 formal votes.

Round 1: A 7, B 6, C 4, D 3. Exclude D.

Ballot 18 → C; ballot 19 → C; ballot 20 → B.

Round 2: A 7, B 7, C 6, D excluded. Total 20. Exclude C.

Ballots 14, 15, 16 and 18 → A. Ballots 17 and 19 → B.

Final: A 11, B 9. Petting Zoo wins with a majority.

The first-preference leader may be overtaken when later preferences transfer. There are no tied lowest options in this worked set.

RUN THE ACTIVITY

Print the ballot sheet and tally sheet. Keep ballot IDs visible so every paper can be tracked through transfers.

Allow pointing, oral answers or a partner scribe. Keep colour optional. Use fictional examples and invite explanations without asking about family voting choices.