

**7. In-class activity** Each student should estimate the length of the classroom. The values should be based on visual estimates, with no actual measurements being taken. After the estimates have been collected, construct a confidence interval, then measure the length of the room. Does the confidence interval contain the actual length of the classroom? Is there a “collective wisdom,” whereby the class mean is approximately equal to the actual room length?

**8. In-class activity** Divide into groups of three or four. Examine a sample of different issues from a current magazine and find the proportion of pages that include advertising. Based on the results, construct a 95% confidence interval estimate of the percentage of all such pages that have advertising. Compare results with other groups.

**9. In-class activity** Divide into groups of two. First find the sample size required to estimate the proportion of times that a coin turns up heads when tossed, assuming that you want 80% confidence that the sample proportion is within 0.08 of the true population proportion. Then toss a coin the required number of times and record your results. What percentage of such confidence intervals should actually contain the true value of the population proportion, which we know is  $p = 0.5$ ? Verify this last result by comparing your confidence interval with the confidence intervals found in other groups.

**10. Out-of-class activity** Identify a topic of general interest and coordinate with all members of the class to conduct a survey. Instead of conducting a “scientific” survey using sound principles of random selection, use a convenience sample consisting of respondents who are readily available, such as friends, relatives, and other students. Analyze and interpret the results. Identify the population. Identify the shortcomings of using a convenience sample, and try to identify how a sample of subjects randomly selected from the population might be different.

**11. Out-of-class activity** Each student should find an article in a professional journal that includes a confidence interval of the type discussed in this chapter. Write a brief report describing the confidence interval and its role in the context of the article.