

# PART 1: UNDERSTAND THE MADNESS

For Part 1 of March Madness, complete the following tasks. This will be done during the first round of the tournament. By completing this, you will understand how the biggest basketball tournament works. Part 2 will be completed during the other rounds.

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## THE PLAYBOOK

1. You may work in groups of two or individually.
2. Find a copy of this year's NCAA Basketball Tournament bracket on Mr. Polsky's March Madness page. Print a copy to use through the rest of the project.
3. Research the stats of the teams. If you are working in teams, each member may be responsible for one region (South, East, Midwest, and West). You will be looking for information about their past NCAA wins and their records for this year. You will need to print out the **Team Statistics** worksheet to record your data. Answer all the questions on the worksheet.
4. How do patterns relate to the NCAA Tournament? Print a copy of **The Elimination** worksheet from Mr. Polsky's website. Look at your bracket to answer the questions.



5. Probability is our next area of focus. Use the resources provided to find out where each college or university is located. If you are working in teams, locate the states for the schools in your region. Only the state is needed. You may record this information on your bracket out beside the name of each school. Answer the probability questions on the **Take Your Chances** worksheet with this information.
6. Select a newspaper article from the resources that deals with one game or team from the tournament. This needs to be done independently. Print the article from the website. From that article, record all the statistics that are mentioned. Write a brief paragraph explaining the importance of Mathematics in basketball.