



Photo via Amazon

It's that time of year, at least in the U.S., when everyone's trying to decide what to be for Halloween. Some kids design their own crazy costumes, everything from walking sandwiches to electronic gadgets. Some people buy their costumes ready-made, and hope they don't get stuck with the store's worst leftovers. So there's lots of variety, but there's clumping, too: there's always a hit costume of the year, based on some movie or scandal in the news, and there are "group" costumes, like a chain of Crayola crayons. When you count up the costumes among your friends, you might find there are more repeats than you expect.

Wee ones (counting on fingers): If in your class you and 3 friends dress up as witches and 2 other friends dress up as ghosts, how many witches and ghosts do you have?

Little kids: If your class has 6 Disney princesses and twice as many superheroes, how many superheroes do you have? *Bonus:* If $\frac{1}{2}$ of the princesses and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the superheroes have capes, how many caped characters are there?

Big kids: If at your school 27 kids dress up as Angry Birds, and of those, half as many dress up as the yellow one as the blue one, how many Angry Birds of each color are there? (Assume no one's wearing any other bird color.) *Bonus:* If everyone's wearing the really fat, 3-foot-wide version of the Angry Bird costume, and they all line up in one row to pose for a photo, how wide a line of Angry Birds do you have?