Thinking about SKUNK

Discuss with your group and write out answers to each of the following.

1. SKUNK is a game that involves both choice and chance.
   - What part of SKUNK involves choice? _______________________________________
     _______________________________________
   - What part of SKUNK involves chance? ______________________________________
     _______________________________________

2. Think of some other games you know.
   - Which games involve mostly choice? ______________________________________
     ______________________________________
   - Which games involve mostly chance? ______________________________________
     ______________________________________

   Rate each game on a scale of 1-10, with 1 meaning “pure chance”, 5 meaning “chance and choice about equal,” and 10 meaning “pure choice.” Justify your ratings.

3. In life, many things happen. Some are the result mostly of chance or “luck,” and others mostly result from the choices and decisions you make. Think about some things that happened recently in your life.
   - List two things that happened to you mainly because of chance. ___________________
     _______________________________________________________________________
   - List two things that happened to you mostly because you made a choice. __________
     _______________________________________________________________________
Choose one or more of the following to investigate in-depth:

4. Rolling a 1 in SKUNK is a disaster. To get a better score it would be useful to know, on average, how many good rolls happen before a 1 or double 1’s come up.
   - Decide on a way to find out. ____________________________________________
   - Carry out your plan and describe the results. _______________________________

5. In SKUNK, when a 1 isn’t rolled, what is the average score on a single roll of the dice?
   - Decide on a way to find out. ____________________________________________
   - Carry out your plan and describe the results. _______________________________

6. What are some strategies that could be used to play SKUNK?
   - Describe a “play-it-safe” strategy. _________________________________________
                   _________________________________________________________________
   - Describe a risky strategy. _____________________________________________
                   _________________________________________________________________
   - Estimate the kind of scores each strategy would be likely to produce. _______
                   _________________________________________________________________
                   _________________________________________________________________
   - Play SKUNK using each of your strategies and keep a record of your scores. _______
                   _________________________________________________________________
                   _________________________________________________________________
   - How well do your results agree with what you expected? ___________________
                   _________________________________________________________________