

## ***Battle of the Cereal Mascots***

War!!!! Between cereal mascots, that is. On one side are Tony the Tiger, Count Chocula, Toucan Sam, Sugar Bear, Boo Berry, and the Corn Flakes rooster. They have taken up arms against Captain Crunch, Lucky the Leprechaun, Sonny the cuckoo bird, the Honey Bee, the Honeycomb Monster, and the Trix Rabbit.

This war has sadly divided the Rice Krispies mascots. Snap has gone to one side, and Crackle the other. You are Pop. Opp/choice, which side do you join?

SNAP / TONY / CHOCULA / ETC.

### 1. Power.

Jungle fever: You have a tiger *and* a bear. Both are excellent melee fighters. You can send the tiger to the left and the bear to the center.

The other side doesn't have anything to stand up to the sheer power of a tiger and a bear. (*Especially* when the tiger is highly charismatic, and the bear is all wired up on sugar. I think it's clear that our side has more sugar, which is a key criteria by which to judge this round.) The honeycomb monster? Come on! Bears eat honey for lunch. Literally.

(a) Tony the Tiger rocks. Most of these mascots are sugar-addled buffoons, but Tony's a strong, competent dude with real leadership qualities. He's a rock, an anchor on the team.

(b) Sugar Bear is admittedly not as solid as Tony, but he's still a bear. And bears are badass.

To put it simply, we are carnivores and they are herbivores. I think we know who's gonna win this one.

### 2. Tactics.

We've got two birds which we can use to totally outwit and outmaneuver the other side.

(a) Toucan Sam is valuable. Sure, he's gay, but his only opposition is a completely insane cuckoo bird. Toucan Sam will provide valuable, reliable aerial reconnaissance of enemy positions.

(b) The Cornflakes rooster. Roosters are excellent at waking up the other side and preventing them from getting any sleep. They are also good at detecting intruders and alerting you when they are coming.

(c) And if that's not enough avian power for you, remember that if Toucan Sam and the rooster need any help, Chocula can always turn into a bat to back them up.

By contrast, the Trix Rabbit keeps getting outwitted by all those kids – he’s pretty dumb. Not nearly as adept at tactical maneuvering. (Same with Lucky – he constantly loses in his attempts to defend his cereal. Not a great track record, there.)

### 3. Stamina.

(a) Count Chocula is a vampire – he’s practically immortal, for crying out loud. He’ll be around long after all these other chumps have died natural deaths from sugar overdoses.

-- Moreover, Chocula will be able to score an easy feed off of Sonny the (cocoa puffs) Cuckoo Bird, boosting his stamina still further.

(b) But if you don’t buy that, recall that Boo Berry is a ghost. While Chocula is almost immortal, Boo Berry *actually is* immortal. He cannot be killed. Therefore, we win pretty much automatically.

## CRACKLE / CRUNCH / LUCKY / ETC.

### 1. Leadership and experience.

(a) Captain Crunch is the only one here with an actual military background. He’s the only one who actually knows how to fight a war and, for that matter, who even knows what a war is.

(b) You’re you. Remember, you’re Pop, the Rice Krispies elf who always wears a military uniform. It just seems natural that you’ll want to pick Captain Crunch’s side.

### 2. Ethics.

Just war theory. Count Chocula is a vampire. He’s evil.

(a) This makes it morally wrong to join his side.

(b) Empirically, the bad guys tend to wind up losing wars in the end.

Boo Berry is somewhat more benign, but he’s still a ghost and still the undead. We stand for life, not death.

(c) By contrast, the Honeycomb Monster is just as powerful as Chocula, without being evil. He’s just a misunderstood monster, kind of like Shrek, or Erek Speed.

### 3. Air power.

(a) The Honey Bee is like a giant bee that’s all wired up on sugar. Practically unstoppable. Sure, he’d only be able to get in one sting, but we could use that sting to eliminate Tony the Tiger or some other valuable member of their team. Actually, wait, there aren’t any other valuable members of their team. OK, Tony the Tiger then.

(b) Sonny the Cuckoo bird can easily dispose of Toucan Sam, who is useless and probably gay. Then the skies shall be ours. We will have air superiority and be able to conduct valuable aerial reconnaissance.

#### 4. Magic.

(a) The Trix Rabbit. He has the power of disguise and is very, very persistent. An excellent espionage asset.

(b) Lucky the leprechaun. In addition to possessing magical powers and being extremely lucky, Lucky also has lots of practical battle experience gained by constantly defending his lucky charms from belligerent children. Also, Lucky has an entire pot of gold with which to finance the war effort.

Even if you accept all their other arguments, this is our trump card – we simply cancel them all out with magic.