

Comparing Numbers

Adult Guidance with Question Prompts



Children compare abstract representations of numbers. They use the comparison phrases 'greater than', 'less than' or 'equal to' in order to compare pairs of numbers. They can use numeral cards and number tracks to help.

Can you read these words?

What do they mean?

How can you fill the gaps?

Which ones need you to write words and which ones need you to write numbers?

What words will you choose to make this statement correct?

Can you give me a number to finish this sentence? For example: 10 is less than...

Is there more than one possible answer? Why?

Challenge:

Are these sentences true or false? Give comparing sentences - some true and some false. For example, 12 is greater than 14; 13 is less than 18.

Comparing Numbers



Fill the gaps.

less than

equal to

greater than

11	<i>is less than</i>	13
17	<i>is</i> _____	19
15	<i>is</i> _____	9
12	<i>is</i> _____	12
10	<i>is less than</i>	_____
16	<i>is greater than</i>	_____
_____	<i>is equal to</i>	20

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

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Children compare abstract representations of numbers. They consider clues and give examples which would fit the information, explaining their thinking. They can use the ordered numbers to help.

Can you read the clue?

Can you find and ring 12 and 17 on the number line?

What numbers are less than 17?

What numbers are greater than 12?

What numbers are greater than 12 and less than 17?

Why is Bill right?

Why is Ted right?

Can you give a different correct answer?

How many numbers fit this clue?

Can you write a different clue for your friend to answer?

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Bill and Jed read the clue.

The number is **less than** 17
but **greater than** 12.

The number is 14.

The number is 15.



Explain why they are both right.

11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

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Children compare abstract representations of numbers. They use the phrases 'less than' and 'greater than' to compare pairs of numbers and solve a problem. They are encouraged to recognise that when comparing numbers, more than one answer is possible. They can use numeral cards and number tracks to help.

How could you start solving this problem?

Using numbers 11 to 20, which numbers could fit these number sentences: 14 is greater than...? 17 is less than...? 15 is less than...?

Is this number sentence correct: 15 is less than 13?

How can you make sure you have only used each number once?

Can you find another way to complete the table?

Comparing Numbers



11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Use all the numbers from 11 to 20 once to make the sentences correct.

<input type="text"/>	is less than	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	is greater than	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	is less than	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	is greater than	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	is greater than	<input type="text"/>

Explain what you did.

Is there more than one way?