

Comparing numbers

Comparing two numbers

- Circle the smaller number in each box.

3, 8

1, 9

2, 20

- Circle the bigger number in each box.

4, 7

2, 7

8, 9

The symbol for 'smaller than' and 'greater than.'

* The symbols '<' stands for 'smaller than' and '>' stands for 'greater than.' From the examples below, we shall see how they are used.

$$3 < 7$$

3 is less than 7.

$$1 < 9$$

1 is less than 9.

$$20 > 2$$

20 is greater than 2.

$$7 > 3$$

7 is greater than 3.

$$9 > 1$$

9 is greater than 1.

$$2 < 20$$

2 is less than 20



The crocodile is greedy. It eats the bigger number.

- * If we take any two 2-digit numbers how would we decide which one is the greater number?



The number with the greater tens digit is the greater number.

Yash : Let's take 37 and 52. There are 3 tens in 37 and 5 tens in 52. Therefore, $52 > 37$ as also $37 < 52$.



Rama : Quite right ! When we count numbers on a measuring tape, 37 comes first and 52 comes later. The number that comes later is bigger. If both the numbers have the same digit in tens place, how do we decide?



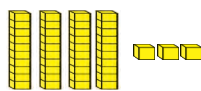
If the tens are equal, the digits in units' place will help.

Yash : Let's take 72 and 78. $2 < 8$. So, $72 < 78$.

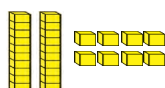
Let us expand numbers and verify the rules for comparing numbers.

43 and 28

$$43 = 40 + 3$$



$$28 = 20 + 8$$

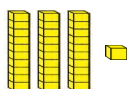


In the number 43, the tens place digit is 4 while 2 is the tens place digit in the number 28.

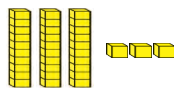
So, $43 > 28$

31 and 33

$$31 = 30 + 1$$



$$33 = 30 + 3$$



In both numbers, the tens place digit is 3, i.e. the tens digits are equal. However, 33 has 3 in the units place and 31 has 1 in the units place.

So, $31 < 33$

Now, compare the numbers in each pair given below and insert the sign '<' or '>' between the two numbers.

43, 46

$43 < 46$

84, 86

67, 57

30, 50

13, 9

23, 32

Try this : Take 10 pairs of any numbers and compare the two numbers in each pair.

