Comparing numbers to 10

You see two numbers. Which one is greater? Which one is less?

WORDS TO KNOW

Greater than: more. 9 is greater than 3.

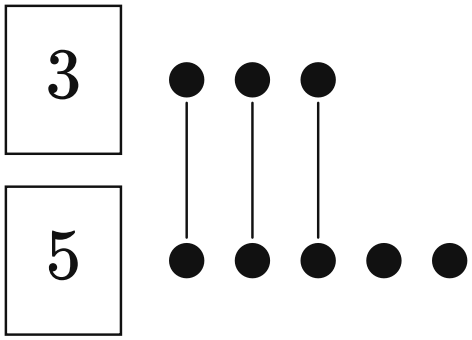
Less than: fewer. 3 is less than 9.

Equal: the same number.

KEY IDEAS

1. Check with your fingers

Show each number with fingers. Press fingertips together, one and one. Whoever has fingers left over has the greater number.

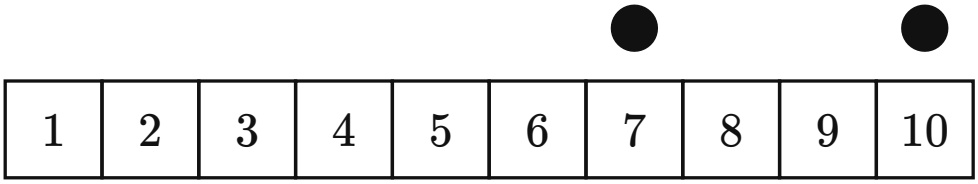


> Fingers left over: that number is greater.
>
> No fingers left over: the numbers are equal.

2. Later is greater

Count from one. The number you say later is greater.

> Later when you count: greater. Sooner when you count: less. Say it both ways.



WATCH OUT

- **Thinking 10 is small.** The 1 in 10 looks small, but 10 is ten.
- **Numbers next to each other.** For 7 and 8, count slowly.

WORKED EXAMPLES

Example 1. Which is greater, 2 or 7?

1. Count from one. You say two first. You say seven later.

Answer: 7 is greater than 2. 2 is less than 7.

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