FAMILY MATH

Count and Compare with Data

Dear Family,

Your student is using graphs to organize, represent, and interpret data. They collect data by counting various things. Then they represent, or show, the data in different graphs and charts. Your student is also interpreting graphs and charts by comparing the categories. They use the greater than (>) and less than (<) symbols to write comparison number sentences.

Key Terms and Symbols

graph

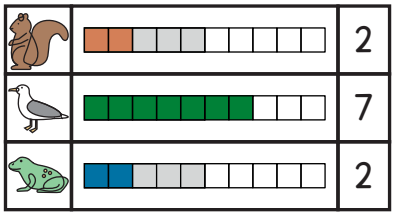
greater than symbol >

less than symbol <

represent

Graph

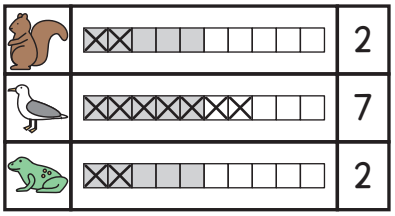
Animals We See



There are more birds than squirrels.
7 is greater than 2.
7 > 2

Picture Graph

Animals We See



There are fewer frogs than birds.
2 is less than 7.
2 < 7

Tally Chart

Animals We See

The number of squirrels is the same as the number of frogs.
2 is equal to 2.
2 = 2

At-Home Activities

Organize and Compare

Prepare a disorganized pile of two or three types of objects, like forks and spoons. Ask your student to predict whether there are more of one object or the other. Then, have your student line up the objects in separate rows and count the number in each row to check their prediction. Encourage your student to use comparison statements like the following examples to describe the relationship between the groups.

- "There are 4 spoons and 7 forks. 4 is less than 7. There are fewer spoons than forks."
- "There are 4 spoons and 4 forks. 4 is equal to 4. There is an equal number of forks and spoons."

Make a Graph

Collect data about objects around you, such as the number of buttons, pockets, and zippers on your clothing or your student's clothing. Invite them to graph the data by creating a picture graph or tally chart. The graph can help your student to organize and compare the data. Help your student analyze the data by asking the following questions.

- "How many buttons are on your clothes? How many pockets are on your clothes?"
- "Do you have more buttons or more pockets? How do you know?"