

FAMILY MATH

Use Place Value to Compare

Dear Family,

Your student is using place value to compare two-digit numbers. They consider the value of the digits in the tens place to decide which number is greater. If both numbers have the same digit in the tens place, they consider the value of the digits in the ones place. Your student also explores how the value of a smaller set of coins can be greater than the value of a larger set of coins. They compare two amounts of money and add coins to make the amounts equal. They use the greater than ($>$), less than ($<$), and equal to ($=$) symbols to write number sentences.

4 tens 19 ones 5 tens 6 ones

tens	ones
5	9

59

tens	ones
5	6

56

$59 > 56$

They both have 2 tens, but **4 ones** is greater than **2 ones**.

3 tens is greater than **2 tens**.

$24 > 22$	$24 < 34$
Ones place different	Tens place different

$30 = 26 + 4$

At-Home Activities

Compare Numbers

Look for opportunities to help your student compare two-digit numbers. Invite them to study the digits in the tens and ones places to determine which is larger and which is smaller. Consider using situations such as the ages of two family members or the number of minutes it takes to complete two tasks, like these examples.

- “My sister is 15. My mom is 42. 1 ten is less than 4 tens, so 15 is less than 42.”
- “It takes 24 minutes to roast the potatoes and 21 minutes to roast the carrots. Both numbers have 2 tens. 4 ones is more than 1 one, so 24 is greater than 21.”

Would You Rather?

Collect some dimes and pennies or use pieces of paper with 1s and 10s written on them. Make two groups of coins, one with more coins and a smaller value (11 pennies), and one with fewer coins and a greater value (2 dimes). Ask your student, “Which group would you rather have? Why?” Encourage your student to explain by identifying the totals of each group and telling you which is greater. Consider extending the activity by discussing which coins could be added to make both groups equal.