

Place Value

Dear Family,

Your child is learning to read and write numbers with up to six digits. He or she also is learning to compare large numbers using the symbols $>$ (greater than) and $<$ (less than), to order numbers from greatest to least or least to greatest, and to round numbers. To do all of this, he or she has to understand the concept of place value—that the value of a digit depends on its place in the number. For example, in the number 327,841, the 7 is in the thousands place. Its value is 7,000.

Help your child practice using place value. Encourage him or her to read large numbers and to compare them to each other. Here is a game you can play together.

Know Your Numbers

Materials: index cards, paper and pencil

Step 1 Make a set of number cards using 0 through 9 by writing a number on each index card. Place the cards face down on a table. Player 1 turns over six cards.

Step 2 Player 1 arranges the cards to make the greatest number and then records the number. For example, if the digits are 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, and 9, the greatest number is 976,531.

Step 3 Player 2 then rearranges Player 1's cards to make the least possible 6-digit number (135,679) and records it. Have your child read both recorded numbers aloud.

Step 4 Repeat the game several times using 6-digit numbers.