Math – < > = – Greater Than, Less Than, Equals
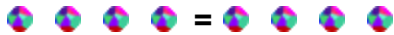
The language of math is numbers and symbols. Here are some of the symbols you already know: the addition sign **+**, the subtraction sign **-** , the multiplication sign **x**, and the division sign **÷**.   Today, we are going to look at three more symbols. One you have already used: the **equal sign =,** and two you may not know yet: the **greater than** and **less than** signs **> <** .

Equals means the same, so the numbers on both sides of the equal sign must be the same amount. For example, all the sums below mean the same.

🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 = 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐

OR

4 **=** 4,

OR

2 **+** 2 **=** 4

The **greater than** sign > shows us that the number on the wide side of the sign is bigger than, or more than the number on the pointed side. The **less than** sign looks the same, but we use it the other way around. In both symbols, the sign points to the smaller number. So, for example:

🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 **>** 🌐 🌐   OR   🌐 🌐 **<** 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐 🌐

OR   OR

6 **>** 2   2 **<** 6

OR   OR

3 **+** 3 **>** 2   2 **<** 3 **+** 3

It's easy to remember which is which if we pretend that the bigger number is shooting an arrow at the smaller number.
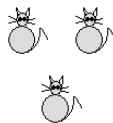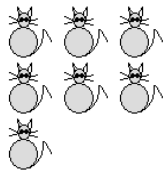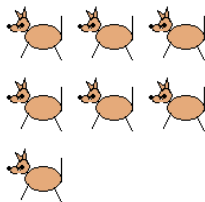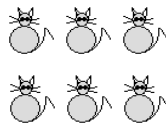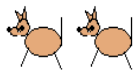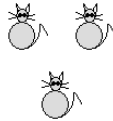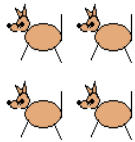
Math – < > = – Greater Than, Less Than, Equals Questions

A: Use < > and = to compare the number of dogs and cats

Put the correct symbol into the square.

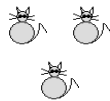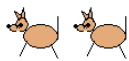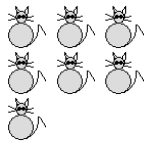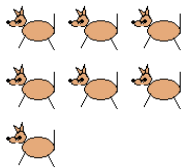B: Use < > and = to compare the numbers

Fill in the blank spaces:

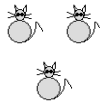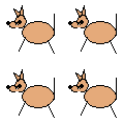- 10 _____ 6
- 5 _____ 7
- 2   >   _____
- 4 _____ 4
- 8 _____ 2

Math – < > = – Greater Than, Less Than, Equals
Answers

Activity A

Activity B

- 10 > 6
- 5 < 7
- 2 > 1
- 4 = 4
- 8 > 2