

Greater Than, Less Than Sign Cards

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Cut out the cards. Read every sign left to right, and say its words: $5 < 8$ is 5 is less than 8.



greater than



greater than



less than



less than



equal to



equal to



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For Grown-Ups: How to Use These Cards

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One page to cut out, with two of each sign, for two children or for your child and you.

Why use it

The signs are a first grade standard, and kindergartners compare in words first, so each sign names something your child already knows. Every card prints the words it is read as, so greater than travels with the sign wherever the card goes. A comparison reads left to right, like a sentence.

What it is good for

- Kindergarten: saying greater than, less than, and equal to with real objects.
- First and second grade: reading $<$, $>$, and $=$ between two numbers.

How to use it

1. Put two piles of crackers on the table and a card between them. Your child reads the sentence aloud, left to right.
2. Name a sign by the end you meet first: the wide open end says greater than, and the point says less than.
3. Roll two dice, put one on each side of a gap, and your child picks the card and reads the sentence.
4. Swap the two sides and read it again: $4 < 9$ and $9 > 4$ say the same thing.

Try saying: “Read it from the left. Which end of the sign do you meet first, the open end or the point?”

Tip: Keep the alligator if your child likes it, and add the words. The alligator gives the direction, not the name.



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