During the next week, our math class will use the comparison symbols greater than ( $(>)$, less than $(<)$, and equal to ( $=$ ) to compare quantities. Students will also compare numbers from left to right (from the tens place to the ones place). They will use place value understanding to recognize, for example, that 21 must be greater than 18 since 2 tens have a greater value than 1 ten 8 ones. Finally, students will hear the story of the alligator whose hungry mouth always opens toward the greater number.


You can expect to see homework that asks your child to do the following:

- Compare two amounts and determine the greater and lesser of two numbers.
- Compare two amounts by reading numbers from left to right (from the tens place to the ones place).
- Use the symbols >, <, and = to compare amounts and numbers.


## SAMPLE PROBLEM

Draw the numbers by using quick tens and ones. Compare the numbers by using phrases from the word bank to complete the sentence frame.


Word Bank is greater than is less than is equal to

## HOW YOU CAN HELP AT HOME

- Choose a number up to 40 , and invite your child to add or subtract 10 or 1 to or from that number. For example, if you say, "39, subtract 10," your child responds, "29." You might also challenge your child to say the matching number sentence, for example, " $39-10=29$."
- If your child struggles with number comparison, consider using a Rekenrek, drawing a picture, or counting by tens and ones with dimes and pennies to provide visual support.
- Play Digit Detective with your child. Write a mystery number up to 40 on a piece of paper, then turn the paper over to hide the number. Use place value language to provide clues about the number. For example, you might say, "The digit in the tens place is 1 more than 2 . The digit in the ones place is 1 less than 2 . What's the number?" (31)

TERMS

Comparison symbols: Symbols used to compare amounts, such as greater than ( $>$ ), less than ( $<$ ), and equal to ( $=$ ).

