

Relation Symbols



Family Note The relation symbols $<$ and $>$ were introduced in this lesson. The symbol $<$ means *is less than*, and the symbol $>$ means *is more than*. These symbols will be used in the same way we use the symbol $=$ for *is equal to* or *equals*. For example, instead of writing *5 is less than 8*, we will write $5 < 8$.

It takes time for children to learn the correct use of these symbols. One way to help your child identify the correct symbol is to draw two dots near the larger number and one dot near the smaller number. Then connect the dots as shown below.

$$5 < 8$$

Another way is to think of the open end of the symbol as a mouth eating the larger number.

$$5 \text{ (mouth) } < 8$$

Write $<$, $>$, or $=$.

Example:

$$18 > 12$$

$<$ is less than
 $>$ is more than
 $=$ is the same as
 $=$ is equal to

1. 11 _____ 7 **2.** 21 _____ 25 **3.** 37 _____ 37

4. 29 _____ 42 **5.** 35 _____ 15 **6.** 48 _____ 128

Practice

7. Write some even numbers below.

8. Write some odd numbers below.
