


Comparing and Ordering Whole Numbers

Comparing Two Numbers:

1. Draw a Place Value Chart (PVC)
2. Line up numbers in PVC
3. Start comparing from left → right

43,012 < 43,120
43,012 is less than 43,120

43,120 > 43,012
43,120 is greater than 43,012

 Eats the greater number!

Example:

Compare 43,012 and 43,120

T Th	Th	H	T	O
4	3	0	1	2
4	3	1	2	0

Start here!
The 4's are the same so go to the right →

The 3's are the same so go to the right →

1 is greater than 0 so the bottom number is greater.

Ordering Many Numbers:

1. Follow the same steps from above!
2. Pay attention to ordering:

Least → Greatest

OR

Greatest → Least

Answer:

44,120 43,120 43,012

Example:

Put these numbers in order from greatest to least.

43,012 43,120 44,120

T Th	Th	H	T	O	
4	3	0	1	2	3
4	3	1	2	0	2
4	4	1	2	0	1

Same!

4 is greater so the bottom number is the greatest – now move to the right because the 3's are the same