



ADULT GUIDE · KEEP THIS PAGE

Compare and order to 20

England national curriculum · Year 1 · 0–20

What this pack helps with

Compare quantities by counting and matching, then order four numerals. Challenge the idea that a more spread-out group must contain more objects.

Start here

The child can count objects and recognise numerals to 20. Use real counters to rebuild the pictured groups if necessary.

Use a pencil and large counters. Read the prompts aloud. Encourage one-to-one matching before comparing totals. No inequality symbols are required.

Print and use

Print A4 at actual size (100%). Child pages: **2–6**. Answers and feedback: **7**. Colour is optional; every task works in black and white. Pages may be used separately.

Model the example on page 2, then let the child try. Accept talking, drawing or using objects to explain. Note any help given; this is practice, not a standardised test.

What to try next

Chooses by spread or size	Line up the two groups in pairs. Count any unmatched objects. Rearrange and compare again.
Confuses more and fewer	Use the same two groups twice: A has fewer than B; B has more than A.
Finds ordering difficult	Find the smallest first, then the next. Place number cards along a 0–20 number line.
Works confidently	Compare numbers beyond 20 using tens and ones, then order five or six numbers.

Scope and source

Foundation comparisons and four-number ordering within 0–20 only. Not a complete “to 100” topic, ordinal sequence work or five-/six-number ordering. Based on DfE, Year 1 mathematics: number and place value (England; OGL v3.0). Original TheLearnDen tasks and artwork; not an official assessment. Free to print and share.



LEARN TOGETHER · 0-20

Compare and order to 20

Name: _____ Date: _____

Try it together

A

○ ○ ○

B

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Match one dot in A with one in B. B has two left over. A has fewer dots than B.

Try it with counters

Choose a number from 0 to 20.

Build it with counters.

Draw it in the frames.

My number is .

Make another group to match.

Say how you know it is equal.



PRACTISE INDEPENDENTLY · 0-20

Match the groups

1

A



B



Compared with B, A has ...

Circle the words that fit.

more dots

fewer dots

the same number

2

A



B



Compared with B, A has ...

Circle the words that fit.

more dots

fewer dots

the same number



PRACTISE INDEPENDENTLY · 0-20

Choose the most

- 3 Compare a group of 12 dots with a group of 15 dots.

The group of 12 has ...

Circle the words that fit.

more dots

fewer dots

the same number

- 4 These boxes show numbers of dots.
Circle the number with the most.

17

14

18

You can draw or use counters to check.



PRACTISE INDEPENDENTLY · 0-20

Put numbers in order

- 5 Put these numbers in order.
Start with the smallest.

11	8	15	3

- 6 These boxes show numbers of dots.
Circle the number with the fewest.

5	0	9
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You can draw or use counters to check.

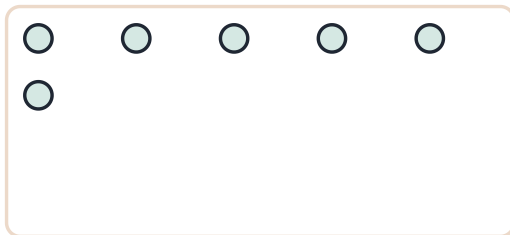


REASON AND EXPLAIN · 0-20

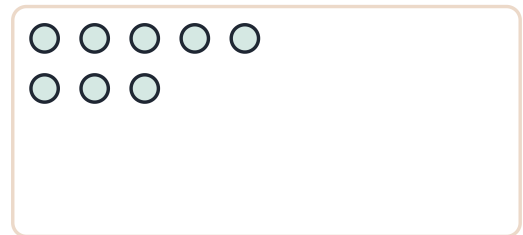
Check the claim

- 7 Sam says, “A has more dots than B.”
Is Sam right? Say or show why.

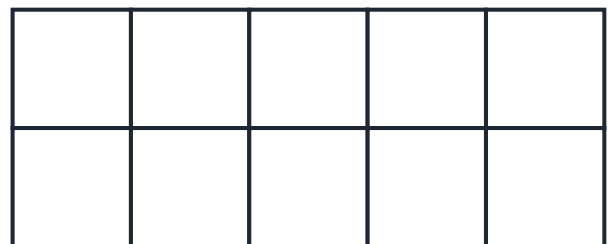
A



B



- 8 A group has 12 dots.
Draw an equal number of dots.



Count or match to check.



ADULT ANSWER GUIDE

Answers and next steps

Discuss how each answer was found. Accept correct spoken numbers; scribe if needed and note the help. Explanations may be spoken, drawn or shown with objects.

- 1** **more dots** A has 8; B has 6. A has more than B.
Accept “more than”, or equivalent spoken comparison that identifies A as the larger group.
- 2** **the same number** Both sets have 9. A has a number equal to B.
Accept “equal to”, “the same” or equivalent spoken comparison.
- 3** **fewer dots** Twelve is less than fifteen: a group of 12 has fewer than a group of 15.
Accept “fewer than” or “less than”.
- 4** **18** Eighteen is the greatest quantity of the three.
- 5** **3, 8, 11, 15** From smallest to largest: 3, 8, 11, 15.
Accept the complete ascending order. No credit-style score is needed: check which pair the child found difficult.
- 6** **0** Zero is the smallest quantity: no objects.
- 7** **No: A has 6; B has 8. A has fewer than B.** A has 6 and B has 8. A has fewer, even though its dots are more spread out.
Accept no, with correct counts or one-to-one matching showing that B has two unmatched dots.
- 8** **12** A matching group needs exactly 12 dots. Count the drawing to check.
Accept any clearly countable drawing of 12 dots, with any arrangement. The child may count or pair them to explain equality.

My practice trail

Optional: colour one circle for each question tried and discussed. This records practice, not a test score.



One thing to practise next: _____