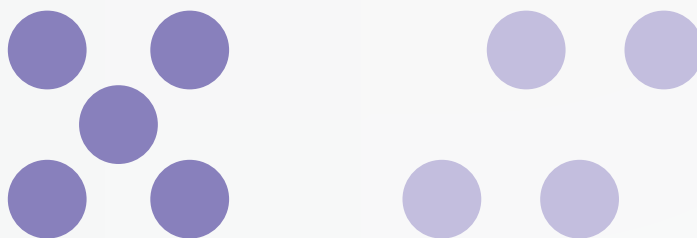# Dear Family,

This week your child is learning to compare within 5.

The lesson includes comparing groups of up to 5 objects. For example, your child may compare a group of 3 hats and a group of 4 blocks to find that there are more blocks. Comparing groups of objects to find which has more and which has less helps to prepare your child to compare the actual numbers in the future. This also prepares them for later work finding out how much more or less is in one group than another. These are important mathematical and real-world skills.

Your child will explore various strategies for comparing, such as lining up the groups of objects being compared in separate rows to see which group has more objects and which group has fewer objects. Another strategy includes crossing out one object from each group of objects until one group has no more to cross out. Or your child may be able to recognize which group has more by just looking at the groups.

5 is more than 4.

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about comparing within 5 by doing the following activity together.
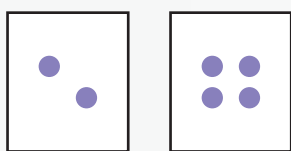
NEXT

Comparing to 5 Activity

Materials: 2 sets of dot cards made by drawing 1 to 5 dots on each of 10 index cards or slips of paper (there should be two cards for each number)

Tell your child that you are going to practice comparing numbers by playing two games: "Go for More" and "Go for Less."

- To play "Go for More," you and your child each get a facedown set of dot cards, shuffled. For each round, you each turn over the card on the top of your pile.

- Your child compares the number of dots on each card and says which card shows more. For example, if your dot card shows 4 dots and your child's shows 2 dots, your child should say, "4 is more than 2." If the cards show the same number of dots, turn over the next card.

- The person who turned over the dot card showing more gets 1 point. Play until someone gets 10 points.

- Then play "Go for Less." In this game, your child says which dot card shows less. For example, "2 is less than 4." This time, the person whose dot card shows less gets 1 point.

4 is more than 2.