Comparing and Ordering Whole Numbers

**Why?** Comparing and ordering numbers is the beginning of developing number sense.

1,234
1,254

1,234 < 1,254

Numbers on a number line are ordered from least to greatest from left to right.

Estimating Whole Numbers

**Why?** Estimating helps you check your answers or determine whether the result of an operation is reasonable.

When rounding, look at the digit to the right of the place to which you are rounding.
- If that digit is 5 or greater, round up.
- If that digit is less than 5, round down.

Compatible numbers are numbers close to the numbers in the problem that you can calculate mentally.

Estimate 235 × 829 to the nearest hundred.
200 × 800 = 160,000
Estimate 87 ÷ 28 to the nearest ten.
90 ÷ 30 = 3

Representing Numbers Using Exponents

**Why?** Exponents provide a shorthand method of representing numbers.

The exponent is 5.

The base is 3.

An exponent tells how many times the base is used as a factor.

\[ 3^5 = 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \]

35 is read as “three to the fifth power.”