

Section Overview



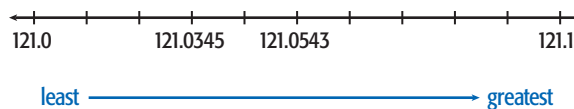
Comparing and Ordering Decimals

Lesson 3-1

Why? Ordered lists of decimals are frequently found in sports statistics, such as batting averages in baseball.

$$121.0\mathbf{3}45 < 121.0\mathbf{5}43$$

To order numbers, you can compare them using **place value**.



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

Estimating Decimals

Lesson 3-2

Why? You can use estimation to determine whether results of decimal operations are reasonable.

Estimate $3.56 + 8.31$ to the nearest whole number.

$$4 + 8 = 12 \quad \text{The sum is about 12.}$$

Estimate $9.7 \div 3.5$.

$$9 \div 3 = 3 \quad \text{The quotient is about 3.}$$

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 close to the numbers in the problem, and they can help you do math mentally.

Adding and Subtracting Decimals

Lesson 3-3

Why? Using a checkbook requires adding and subtracting decimals.

Add $5 + 10.25 + 3.5$.

$$\begin{array}{r} 5.00 \\ 10.25 \\ + 3.50 \\ \hline 28.75 \end{array}$$

Use zeros to write an equivalent number to the same number of decimal places as the other numbers.

Subtract 3.57 from 9.

$$\begin{array}{r} 9.00 \\ -3.57 \\ \hline 5.43 \end{array}$$

Align the decimal points.