

COMPARING TWO-DIGIT NUMBERS

The children already have experience comparing numbers less than ten. For example, 3 is less than 8. Have the children work in pairs. Provide rods and small cubes. Write two numbers such as 24 and 37 on the board. Have one student in the pair show each number. Ask: "Which has more wood? How can we tell easily? How shall we write this?" As the students become confident, move to pairs of numbers with more tens but fewer ones such as 52 and 37. Continue showing the wood and recording.

rod war • 2 players

You Need: Picture cards M5 and M6, reproduced three times for a total of 60 cards, with the number shown written on each; base ten rods and small cubes.

How To Play: Shuffle the cards and give thirty to each player. A player begins with all of his/her cards face down in front of him/her. At the same time, each player turns over his/her top card. The player showing the larger number wins both cards. If both players show the same number they are at "War" and turn over the next card. The player with the larger number now wins all four cards. The winner is the person who collects the most cards. All questions are resolved by showing the numbers with rods and small cubes.

Extension: Use number cards rather than picture cards and play as before.

four in a row • 2 players

You Need: 20 picture cards M5 and M6 with the number shown written on each.

How To Play: Each player draws one card. The person having the larger number is the dealer. The dealer shuffles the deck and deals four cards in a row, face up to each player. These cards may not be rearranged. The remainder of the deck is then placed face down on the table with the top card turned over to start a discard pile. On a turn, a player draws the top card from the deck or the top card from the discard pile. The player may discard this card or trade it for one of his/her four cards and then discard. The first person to get four cards ordered from least to greatest wins.

Extension: Replace picture cards with numeral cards only and play as before.

