Which is greater? Answers and notes

What your child practised: comparing numbers up to ten million column by column, using < and >, and ordering numbers in ascending and descending order (Year 6).

Page 1 · Warm up

4,500,000 **>** 4,050,000 ·
899,999 **<** 1,000,000 · 7,321,654 **>** 7,321,645

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check the sign opens towards the greater number.

Page 2 · A. <, > or =

3,402,118 **<** 3,420,118 · 892,450 **<** 6,482,000 · 5,060,000 **>** 5,006,000 ·
9,999,999 **<** 10,000,000 ·
2,000,000 + 500 **=** 2,000,500 ·
6,714,300 **>** 6,713,400 · 1,111,111 **>** 999,999 ·
4,082,500 **>** 4,082,050

Page 3 · B. Ascending

345,100, 3,140,500, 3,145,000, 3,154,000, 3,415,000

Page 3 · C. Descending

6,520,000, 6,250,500, 6,250,000, 6,205,000, 652,000

Page 3 · D. Fits the gap

Any of **4,600,000** to **4,600,004**.
Any of **7,999,991** to **7,999,999**.

Page 3 · E. True or false

T · **T** · **F** (9,876,543 is greater) ·
F (they are equal)

Challenge: No. 892,450 has only **6 digits** and 6,482,000 has 7, so 6,482,000 is greater: **892,450 < 6,482,000**. You only compare first digits when the numbers have the same number of digits.

Watch out for

- **Comparing only the first digit**, thinking 892,450 > 6,482,000. Count the digits first.
- **Mixing up ascending and descending.** Ascending goes up, like climbing stairs: smallest first.
- **Turning < and > the wrong way.** The open side faces the greater number.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Higher or lower:** think of a number up to 10,000,000. Your child guesses; you say "greater" or "less".
- **Line them up:** say three big numbers and ask for them in order, smallest first.
- **In the game:** Chapter 4, Solving number problems with place value, has digit card puzzles.