Bigger or smaller? Answers and notes

What your child practised: comparing and ordering numbers to 100, and using the <, > and = signs (Year 2 place value).

Page 1 · Warm up

Ring **41**, **70** and **56**.

Page 2 · Try it together

Answers will vary. Check the sign points to the smaller number: 42 > 29.

Page 2 · A. The signs

34 **<** 43 · 58 **>** 51 · 70 **>** 69
25 **=** 25 · 90 **>** 9 · 16 **<** 61

Page 3 · B. In order

15, 45, 51, 54
27, 70, 72, 77

Page 3 · C. Sticks and cubes

38 < 41 · **52 > 49**

Page 3 · D. Make it true

48 or **49** > 47 · 63 < **73**, **83** or **93** · **35** = 35

Challenge: No. 9 has **0 tens** and 21 has **2 tens**, so 21 is bigger: **9 < 21**. Leo compared the digits without thinking about their places. Building both with sticks and cubes shows it straight away.

Watch out for

- **Looking at the ones first** (thinking 39 > 41 because 9 > 1). Always start with the tens.
- **Mixing up < and >.** The open side faces the bigger number; the point faces the smaller one.
- **A 1-digit number against a 2-digit number**, like 90 and 9: a 1-digit number has 0 tens.
- **Ordering**: check the list from both ends: is the first number the smallest, and the last the biggest?

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Higher or lower:** think of a number up to 100. Your child guesses, and you say "higher" or "lower".
- **Shop prices:** compare two prices on a shopping trip: which costs less?
- **In the game:** Chapter 6, Frog Track, places numbers on a 0 to 100 number line.