Parent Guide

How can I use this with my children?

Start by comparing numbers using two groups of objects, such as toys or coins. Then, ensure your child understands the more than/less than symbols before completing this activity.

How does this help my children's learning?

This activity can help your child learn to compare numbers using the more than and less than symbols.

Ideas for further learning:

When out shopping, ask your child to compare similar prices by asking which is bigger and which is smaller.

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Greater Than or Less Than

In year 2, children are taught the 'greater than' and 'less than' symbols (< and >), alongside the 'equals' symbol (=), and begin to use these symbols in number sentences. They often learn that the < and > symbols resemble a crocodile's mouth, and the crocodile always eats the bigger number (for example, 45<84, 32>20). Children begin by using single numbers on each side, and then may move on to using an addition or subtraction fact on one or both sides – for example, 6 + 4 < 20 or 12 > 2 + 5. They may also look at putting an addition or subtraction fact on both sides of the 'equals' symbol (for example, 6 + 4 = 7 + 3).
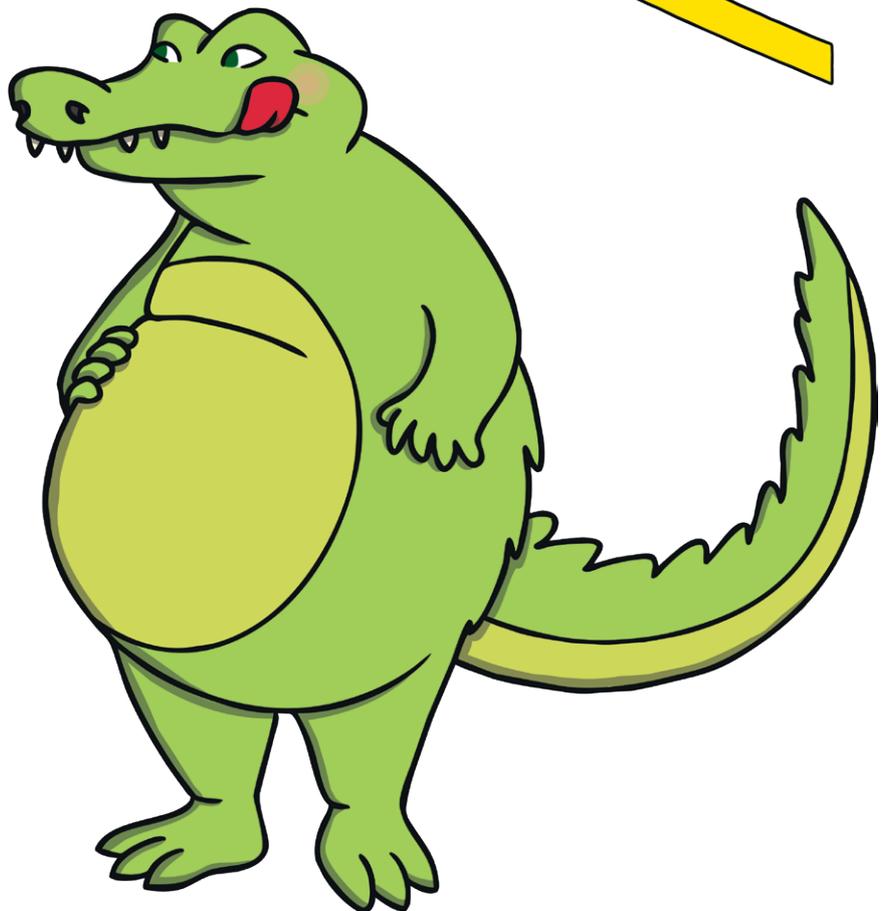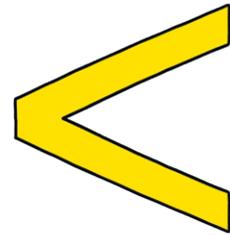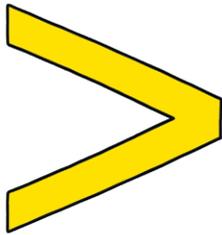
Greater Than or Less Than

Put the correct sign (<, > or =) between these numbers. Remember – the crocodile always eats the bigger number!

12		35
43		27
36		41
28		92
46		32
88		56
22		22
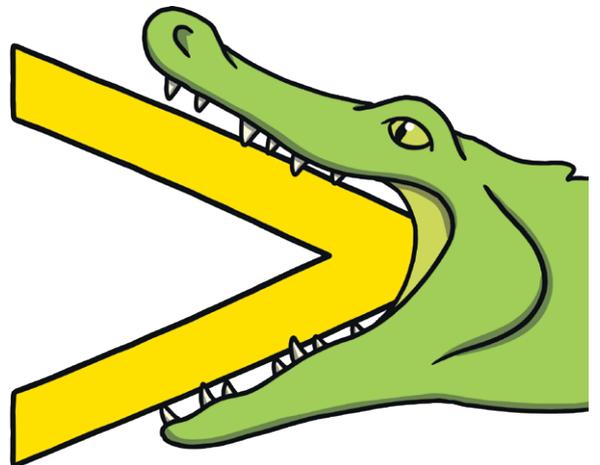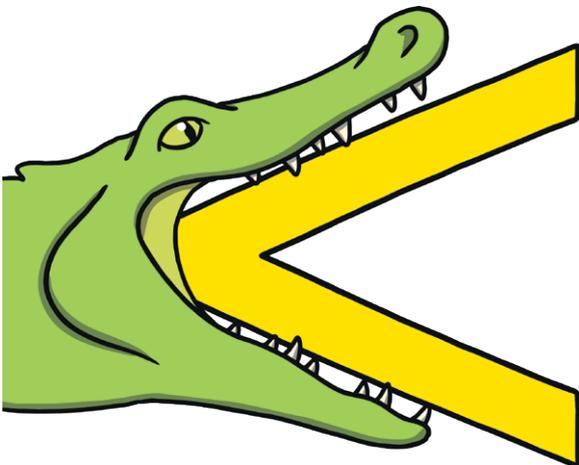
| 8		10
88		91
77		77
21		98
58		57
96		95
16		16

Greater Than or Less Than

Put the correct sign (<, > or =) between these numbers. Remember – the crocodile always eats the bigger number!

10		12
16		10
4+1		41
15+5		16
5+5		10
13+10		23
16+4		22
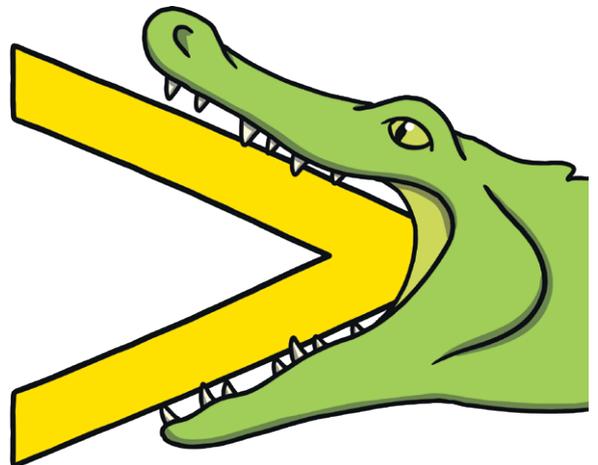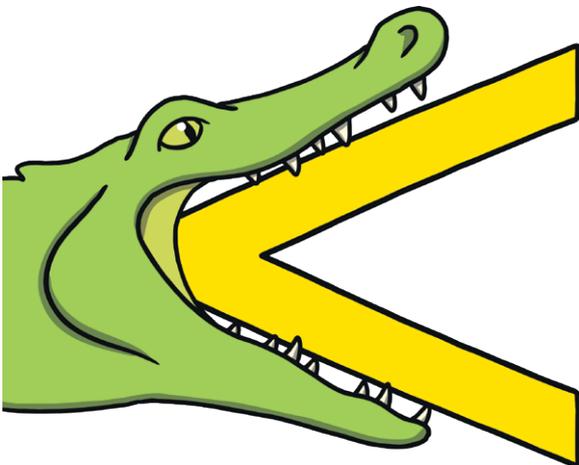
38		20
88		91
7+7		14
21+5		25
50+8		57
9+6		16
31+3		36

Greater Than or Less Than

Put the correct sign (<, > or =) between these numbers. Remember – the crocodile always eats the bigger number!

12		35
43		47
3+6		10
20+8		25
46		35+16
88		70+17
22+3		20+1

18		20
88		91
70+12		83
21+11		32
58		47+10
10+2		7+5
16+3		12+6
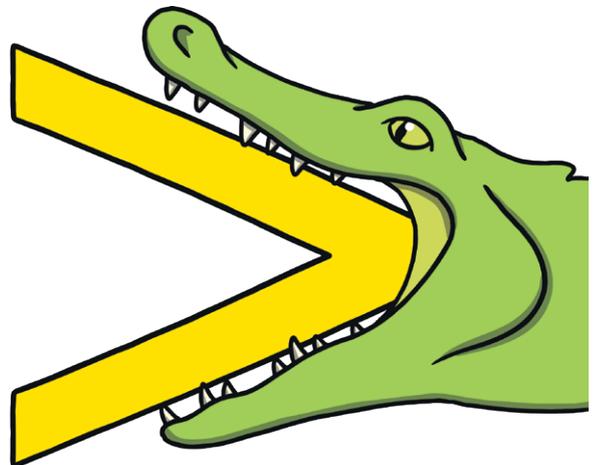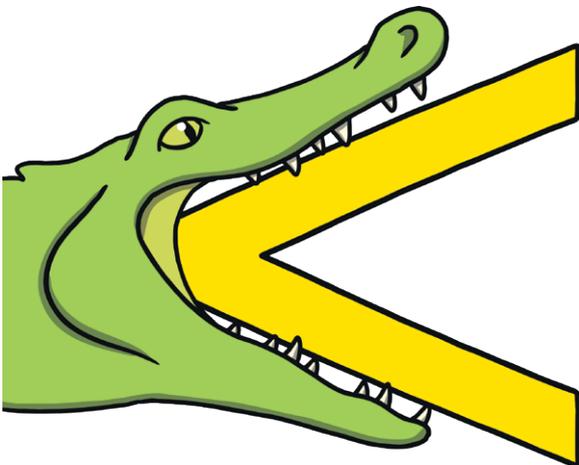
Answers

12	<	35
43	>	27
36	<	41
28	<	92
46	>	32
88	>	56
22	=	22

8	<	10
88	<	91
77	=	77
21	<	98
58	>	57
96	>	95
16	=	16
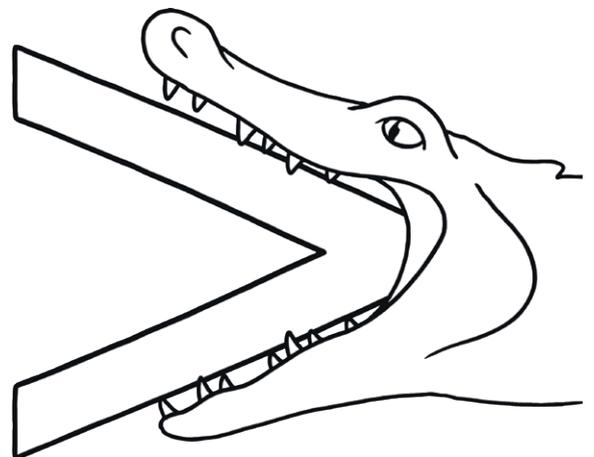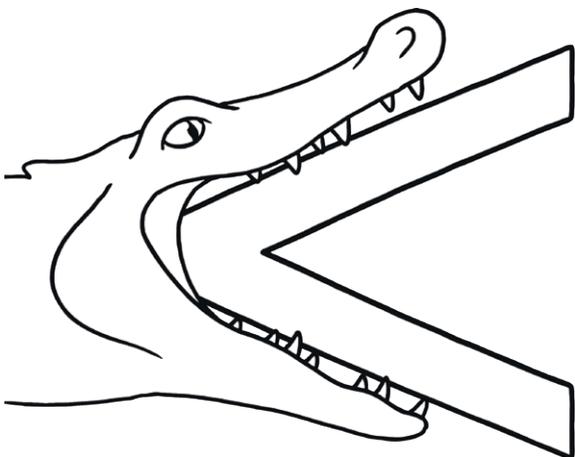
Answers

10	<	12
16	>	10
4+1	<	41
15+5	>	16
5+5	=	10
13+10	=	23
16+4	<	22

38	>	20
88	<	91
7+7	=	14
21+5	>	25
50+8	>	57
9+6	<	16
31+3	<	36
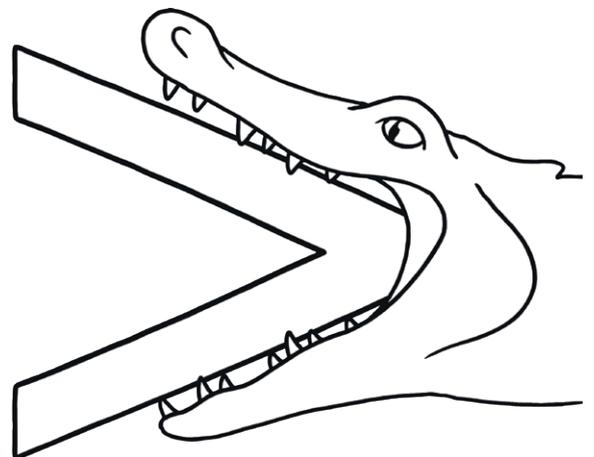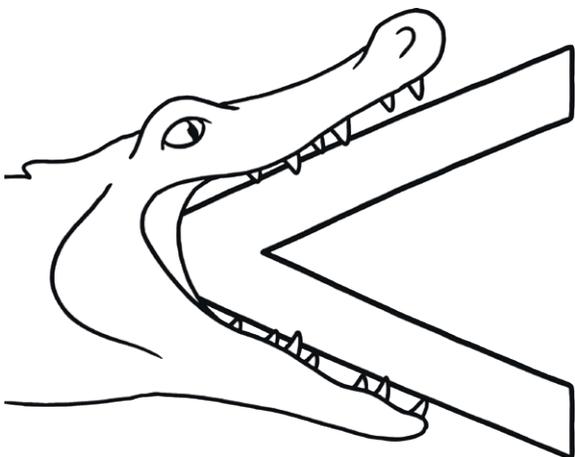
Answers

12	<	35
43	<	47
3+6	<	10
20+8	>	25
46	=	35+16
88	>	70+17
22+3	>	20+1

|		
18	<	20
88	<	91
70+12	<	83
21+11	=	32
58	>	47+10
10+2	=	7+5
16+3	>	12+6
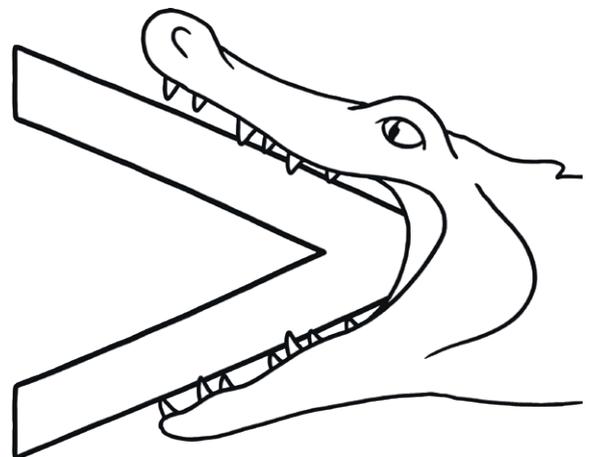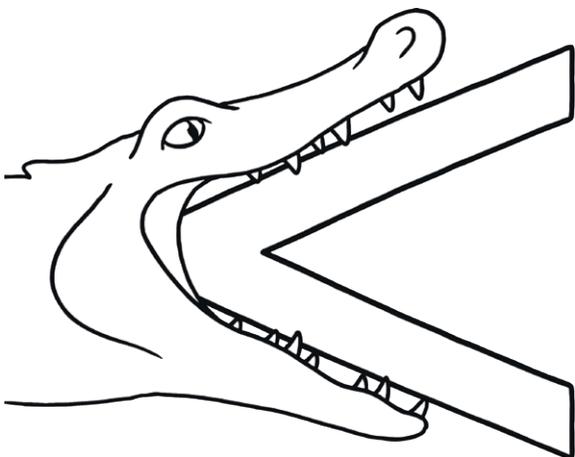
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More or Less Colouring Activity
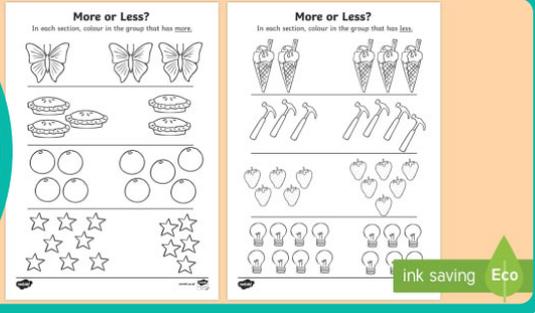
Winter-Themed Greater Than or Less Than up to 20 Worksheet
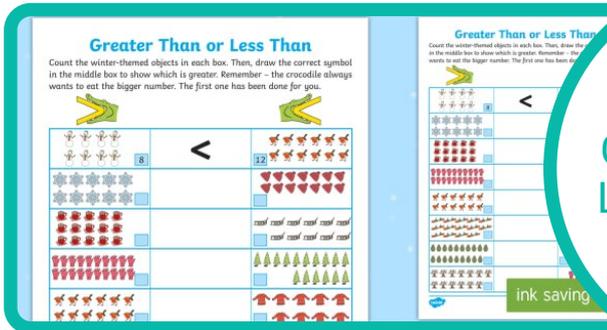
Comparing Numbers up to 20 Game
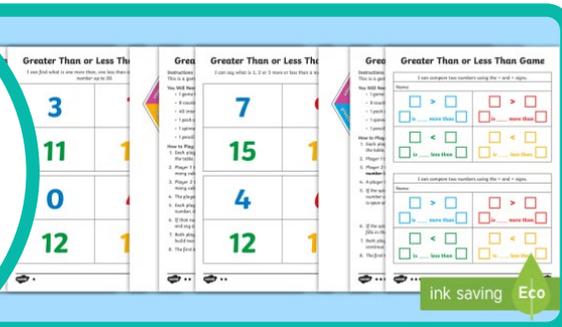
Less Than, More Than and Equals Symbols Activity Cards
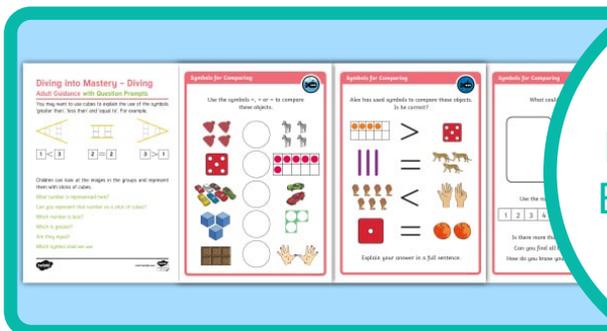
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