

Whole Numbers: *Key Skill 2*

YEAR
4

Read, write and order numbers up to 99 999 (5-digit numbers) in ascending and descending order



Ascending order is when numbers are getting bigger, e.g. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ...

Descending order is when numbers are getting smaller, e.g. 20, 19, 18, 17, 16 ...



Reading, writing and ordering numbers are basic maths skills. To help remember the difference between ascending and descending, the idea of stairs can be helpful. We go **up** stairs so ascending numbers go up (up for ascending). We go down stairs so descending numbers go **down** (down for descending).

In Europe, a comma is used as a decimal point! So we leave a space and not a comma when writing big numbers e.g. 23 000 not 23,000.

Practice this skill often giving your child many chances to read and write numbers down.



Use playing cards or Uno cards to make simple games where children have to read, arrange or write numbers.

For example, take turns drawing cards, 1 at a time, to see who can make the highest number.

Then read the number aloud. The highest number wins. Keep a running score of the highest number made of all time!



WEB LINKS go to:

[Notes: Place value game](#)

[Video: Reading whole numbers](#)

[Game: Arranging numbers](#)

[Game: Ordering numbers](#)

[Game: Place value yahtzee](#)