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Please enjoy this complimentary excerpt from  
Meaningful Small Groups in Math, Grades K-5.

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## ACTIVITY 6.2

# Which Has More?

**Focus on Math:** In this activity, students connect comparing numbers presented as sets of objects to your current grade-level content.

**Identify Student Strengths:** Prior to this activity, identify students' strengths and growth points by using the "Compare Numbers Presented as Sets of Objects" prompt (p. 103) or something similar. Use the strengths to connect to new learning.

### Materials:

- Linking cubes
- *Which Has More?* (Activity Sheet 6.2), one per student.
- Number cards, 2-10
- Various writing materials

### Create Pathways:

#### Launch

1. Ask students to make two number tracks, one with four cubes and one with five.
2. Ask, "Which one has more? How do you know?"

#### Explore

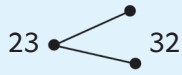
1. Distribute a copy of the *Which Has More?* activity sheet to each student.
2. Have students cut apart the cards and place them facedown in a pile.
3. Instruct each student to flip over two cards and make a number track with linking cubes to represent each number shown on the cards.
4. Have students state which one has more and which one has less.
5. Have students repeat this a few times.
6. When ready, challenge each student to decide how to represent their thinking using writing materials.

#### Discuss

1. Spotlight two or three students' work by asking them to share their numbers and their comparison statement with the group. Also ask them to share their representations.

2. Introduce students to the 1-2-Dot Method for drawing the arrows, if it doesn't come up in conversation.

**The 1-2-Dot Method:** Write two numbers side by side with a space between them. To compare, draw two dots next to the greater number and one dot next to the lesser number. Then, connect the dots to create an arrow, and the arrow will be facing the correct direction, pointing at the lesser amount. Example:



### Wrap Up

1. **Check for Understanding:** Flip over two cards and ask students to build two number tracks to represent those numbers.
2. **Connect to Grade-Level Content:** Explicitly connect comparing numbers presented as sets of objects to your current grade-level content, during both small group and whole-class time.

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Activity Sheet 6.2 • Which Has More?

2

3

4

5

6

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8

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10