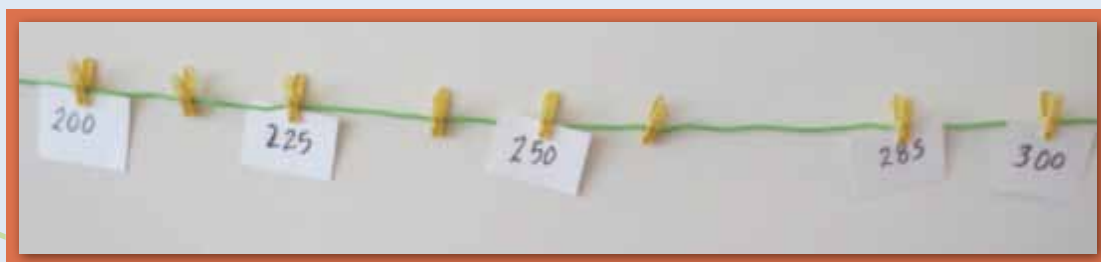


# Line 'em up!



**Clotheslines** can be used as number lines to support students' understanding of number relationships. Here are a few ideas for teachers across the elementary grades.

## Developing early number sense

To develop flexible thinking with numbers, have students hang number cards on a number line with benchmark numbers (e.g., 0, 5, and 10) already placed. As they position the number cards on the line, have students consider, *Is my number closer to 5 or 10? How far is it from 5 or 10?* Include picture cards illustrating quantities to emphasize cardinality.

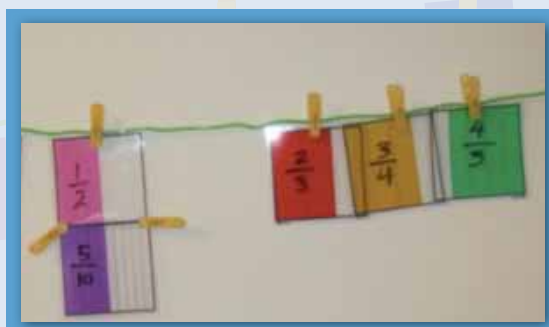
## Comparing and ordering numbers

To stimulate reasoning for comparing and ordering numbers, students can hang number cards on a number line with grade-appropriate benchmark numbers already in place. Requiring justification for placement encourages relational thinking, such as, "I know 285 is here because it is smaller than 300. It cannot be the clip right after 250; it is only 15 away from 300." Discussing placement of fractions and decimals on the number line highlights equivalency concepts. For example, "I know  $\frac{2}{3}$  is  $\frac{8}{12}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  is  $\frac{9}{12}$ , so they should be close together."

## Rounding numbers

To help students determine which benchmark number is closest, use a magnetic clip

to lift the number line in the middle. For example, when rounding numbers between 200 and 300, lift the magnetic clip with 250 so the cards that students place will slide to the closest hundred (225 slides to 200, and 285 slides to 300).



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| 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50  |
| 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60  |
| 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 | 70  |
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| 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90  |
| 91 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 100 |


## Early Grades



Shape Brain Teaser



A 2x2 grid of squares. Each square has a small dot in its center. The dots are arranged in a larger square pattern.



A vertical column of four shapes, each inside a dashed rectangular box. From top to bottom: a pink triangle, a yellow star, a pink star, and a yellow triangle.

[illegible]