

Finding values activities



1 Darken the landmarks

On the floor number line, students place a big dark marker on each landmark — 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20 — so those marks stand out from the rest.

“Put a dark marker on each landmark — zero, five, ten, fifteen, twenty.”

“Why these numbers? What makes them good landmarks?”

2 Find it fast

The teacher calls a number. Students go to the nearest dark landmark and count on (walking the line, or placing a counter) until they reach it.

“Find fourteen. Which landmark is nearest? Count on from there.”

“Did you start at zero, or at a landmark? Which was faster?”

3 From zero, or from a landmark?

Students find the same number both ways — counting from zero, then from the nearest landmark — and compare how many steps each way takes.

“Find eighteen from zero — count the steps. Now from twenty, step back two. Which took fewer steps?”

“When is a landmark much faster than counting from zero?”

4 Non-example: counting every mark from zero

Find nineteen by counting every mark from zero, losing the place or landing one off. Ask what a landmark would have done instead.

“I counted every mark from zero to find nineteen and lost my place. What could I have done?”

“Start at twenty, step back one. Faster — and no mistake.”

Finding values — major interval marker cards

Print on A4 landscape. Cut out. Place a dark marker on each landmark — 0, 5, 10, 15 and 20 — on your floor number line so those marks stand out from the rest. (Two sets provided.)



LANDMARK

0

LANDMARK

5

LANDMARK

10

LANDMARK

15

LANDMARK

20

LANDMARK

0

LANDMARK

5

LANDMARK

10

LANDMARK

15

LANDMARK

20

Finding values — find-it cards

Cut out. Take a card. Go to the nearest dark landmark on your number line and count on to find the number. Then check: was that faster than counting from zero?



Find 14

Nearest landmark? Count on.

Find 7

Closer to 5 or to 10?

Find 18

Try starting from 20.

Find 3

Count on from zero — or back from 5.

Find 12

Start at the nearest landmark.

Find 9

Closer to 10 — step back.

Find 16

Start at 15, count on.

Find 11

Start at 10, count on.