

Parent Guide to the Standards

# Comparing Decimals to Thousandths

## Today's Standard

5.NBT.A3b - Compare two decimals to thousandths based on meanings of the digits in each place, using >, =, and < symbols to record the results of comparisons.

#### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Comparing prices of items in a store; Determining distances in a race; Comparing weights in a science experiment; Analyzing data in a spreadsheet; Comparing times in a stopwatch

#### Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to compare decimals up to the thousandths place. We use symbols like >, =, and < to show which decimal is bigger or smaller.

# **Common Stumbling Blocks**

Sometimes, kids think that longer decimals are always bigger, but that's not true. Also, they might think that the value of a digit is the same no matter where it is, which is also incorrect.

#### Quiz Me

- Which is bigger: 0.5 or 0.05?
- What symbol would you use to compare 0.123 and 0.124?
- Is 0.7 bigger than 0.67?
- What does the symbol '>' mean?
- How do you know which decimal is bigger?

## Help Me

When comparing decimals, think about money. For example, \$0.50 is more than \$0.05. The place of each number matters a lot!