

# FAMILY MATH

## Represent and Solve Comparison Problems

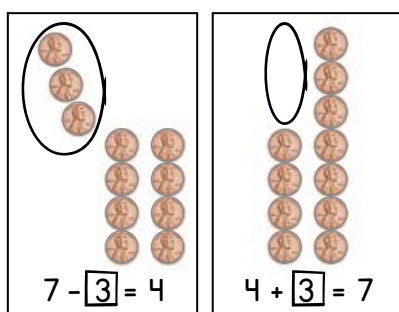
Dear Family,

Your student is exploring equality. They compare two groups of objects by showing or drawing the amounts next to each other. Students learn they can make groups equal by adding more to one group or taking away the “extra” from one group. Then they use similar reasoning to compare two quantities. They draw each quantity, one above the other. Then they identify either how many extra the larger quantity has or how many more the smaller quantity needs to be equal.

### Key Terms

comparison

equality



If one person has 4 pennies and another person has 7 pennies, you can take 3 from 7 or add 3 to 4 to make it equal.

Val has 7 shells.

Ben has 4 shells.

How many more shells does Val have than Ben?

V ● ● ● ● ● ● ● 4 + 3 = 7

B ● ● ● ● × × ×

V ● ● ● ● ● ● ● 7 - 3 = 4

B ● ● ● ●

Val has 3 more shells than Ben.

## At-Home Activities

### Make It Equal

Gather some common household items, such as spoons, paper plates, or coins. Give your student more items than you give yourself. Have your student compare how many items each of you has. Ask questions like the following to help guide your student to compare the groups.

- “How could you arrange the paper plates to show who has more?”
- “How many more paper plates would I need to have the same number that you have?”
- “How many paper plates would you need to take away so we have an equal number of paper plates?”

## What Do We Spy?

Look around the room for opportunities to compare small quantities of items with your student. For example:

- In a room with a different number of doors and windows ask, “Do we see more doors or more windows in this room? How many more?”
- At snack time ask, “Whose plate has fewer crackers? How many fewer are there?”