

Master Negative Numbers (-10 to 10)

Rationale

In this step, pupils build on the skill of counting back through zero in Year 4 to understand negative numbers in context. They will learn that numbers before zero are negative, numbers after zero are positive and that negative numbers become smaller the further away from zero they are.

Pupils will apply this knowledge to label and estimate the position of negative numbers on partially labelled number lines marked with zero; compare negative numbers; and read temperature scales. Pupils will use number lines marked with zero to support their understanding of negative numbers.



Key Stem Sentences

- Numbers below / above zero are ____
- Numbers become ____ the further they are from zero.
- ____ is the greatest / smallest negative number.
- The warmest / coldest temperature is ____



Key Vocabulary

- positive / negative
- zero
- interval
- multiple



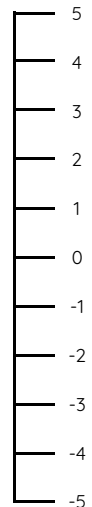
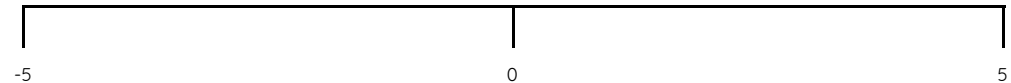
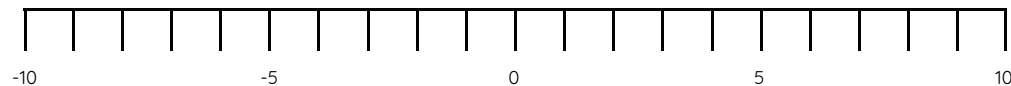
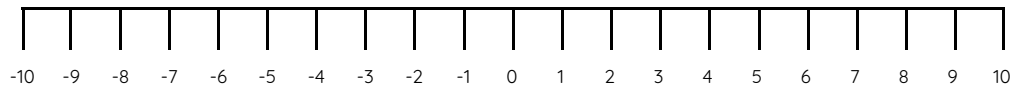
Common Errors or Misconceptions

- Pupils may not be secure with the fact that negative numbers become smaller the further they are from zero.
- Pupils may misread the scales on thermometers.



Key Representations

Number Lines



Pupils will FLOURISH if they can ...

- count forwards and backwards through zero to label numbers on a number track.
- label numbers and estimate the position of negative numbers on a number line.
- identify when a negative number is greater than or smaller than another.
- read thermometer scales accurately and identify the colder / warmer temperature.
- begin to explain their understanding using their own words and representations.

