

Name _____

Date _____

Ordering For Rational Numbers - Guided Lesson Explanation**Explanation#1**

Step 1)

When the right-hand number is equal to the left-hand side then we use the = sign.

When the left-hand side number is greater than the right-hand side number, we put a > sign.

When the left-hand side number is less than the right-hand side number, we put a < sign.

I always follow this strategy; if they are equal put the equal symbol. If they are not equal point the sign towards the smaller number. I will **bold** the smaller numbers below, point the arrow towards them.

$$-0.6 < -\frac{2}{5} = -\mathbf{0.6} < -0.4$$

$$6.24 > 3\frac{1}{2}$$

$$-7\frac{2}{4} < 3\frac{1}{12}$$

Explanation#2

Step 1) Remember that negative numbers are the smallest. The larger the negative, the smaller the number. In this case -5.7 is the smallest number with -3.5 not far behind. Write those two in that order.

Step 2) We now need to determine the next largest number. 0.4 would be less than 6.2, so 0.4 is next followed by 6.2

Steps 3) Now write the answer: -

-5.7

$-3\frac{2}{4}$

0.4

6.2



Name _____

Date _____

Explanation#3

Step 1) Back to the same comparison as in #1. The smaller numbers are in bold below. Point the arrows to the smaller numbers. If they are equal, use the equals sign.

$$3.2 > -\frac{1}{5}$$

$$7.45 = 7.45$$

$$-4\frac{1}{4} < 5\frac{1}{5}$$

