

	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths

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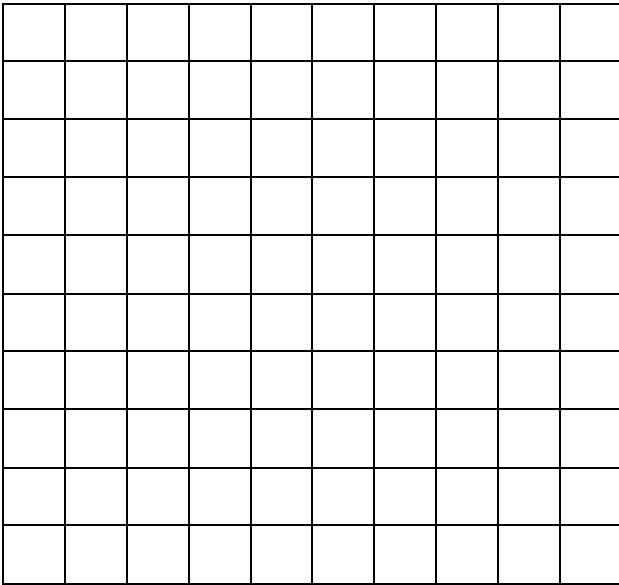
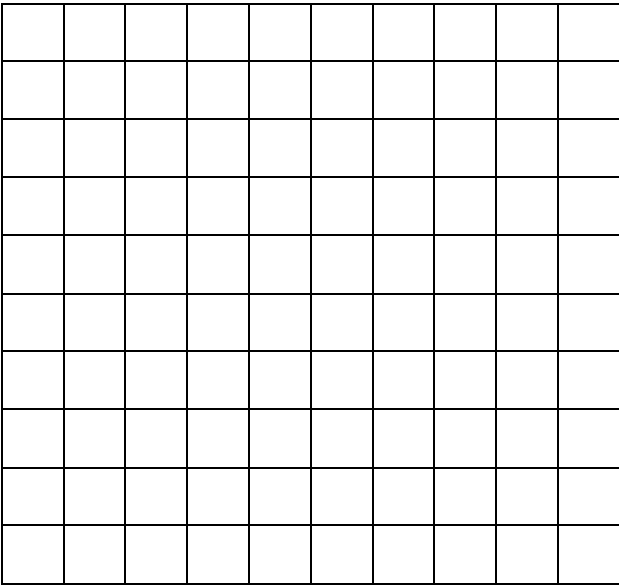
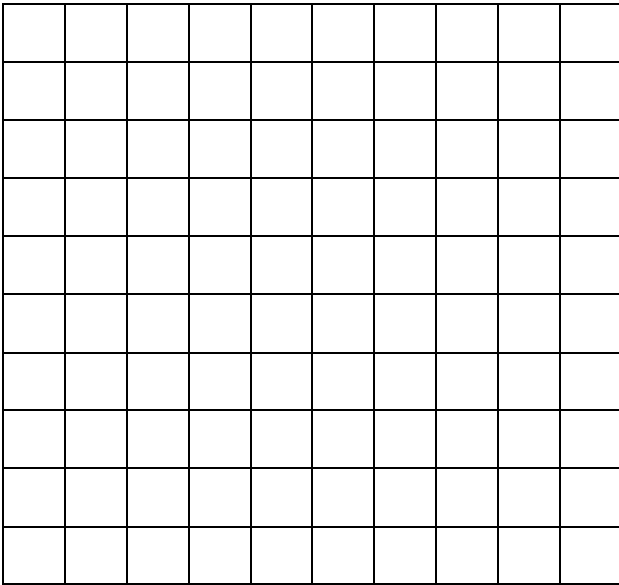
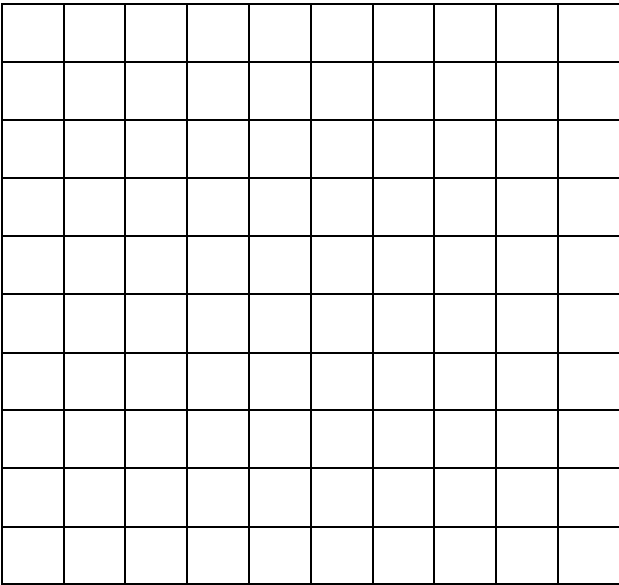
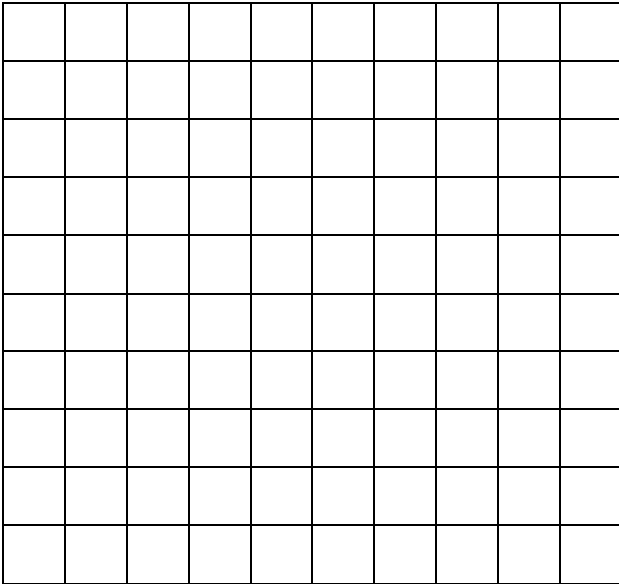
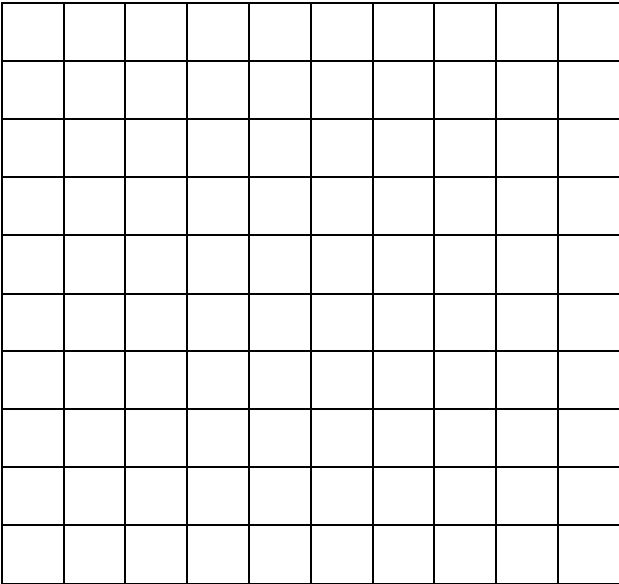














NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

For each pair of decimal numbers, circle the one which is LARGER.	
4.8	4.63
0.5	0.36
0.75	0.8
0.37	0.216
3.92	3.4813
5.62	5.736
0.6	0.85
0.426	0.3
2.516	2.8325
7.942	7.63
4.08	4.7
1.85	1.84
17.353	17.35

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**units**      **tenths**      **hundredths**      **thousandths**

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**units**      **tenths**      **hundredths**      **thousandths**

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[illegible]

**thousandths**

[illegible]



# CURRICULUM, PEDAGOGY AND BEYOND



THE MATHEMATICAL  
ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

**MAV24**  
CONFERENCE

What's the point?

Exploring tools for  
teaching decimals  
effectively





THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MELBOURNE

# *What's the point? Exploring tools for teaching decimals effectively*

MAV Conference 2024  
Carmel Mesiti and Kate Copping  
[cmesiti@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:cmesiti@unimelb.edu.au); [kcopping@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kcopping@unimelb.edu.au)

# Today's session



- Tools to enhance decimal comprehension:
  - Tenths Frame and Hundredths Grid
  - Decimat
  - Decimal Comparison Board
  - Number Expander
  - Decimal Comparison Test
- Considerations: Benefits, limitations, pedagogical potential





# Representing tents



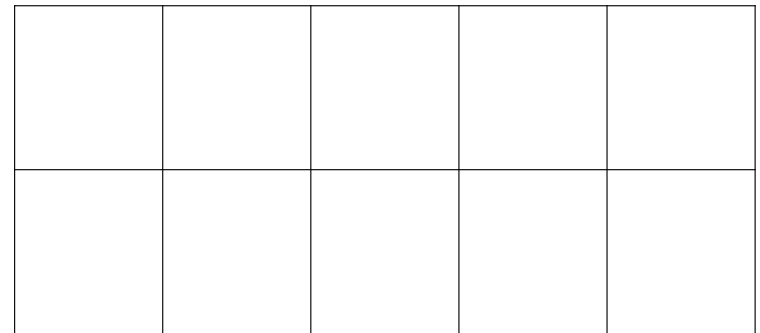


# Representing decimal tenths

*If the entire rectangle is 1 (the whole) what would one of the small parts be called?*

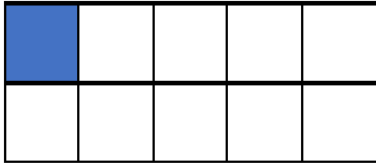
Using your rectangles show and write in symbols:

- one-tenth
- three-tenths
- eight-tenths
- 1.4

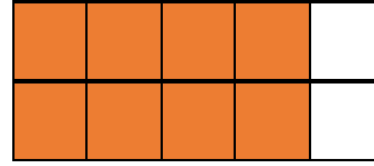


# Representing decimal tenths

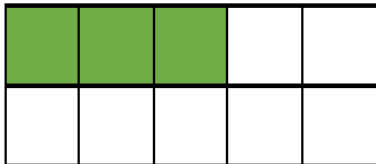
One-tenth or  $\frac{1}{10}$  or 0.1



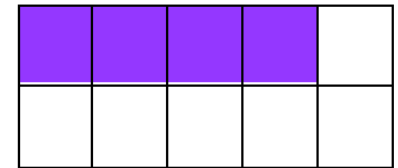
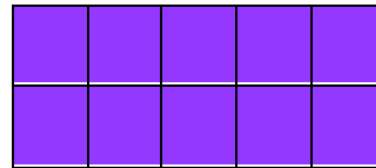
Eight-tenths is  $\frac{8}{10}$  or 0.8



Three-tenths can be written as  $\frac{3}{10}$  or 0.3



1.4 is  $1\frac{4}{10}$  or  $\frac{14}{10}$  or fourteen-tenths



# Adding decimal tenths

If the rectangle is one (the whole) then  $0.5 + 0.2 =$

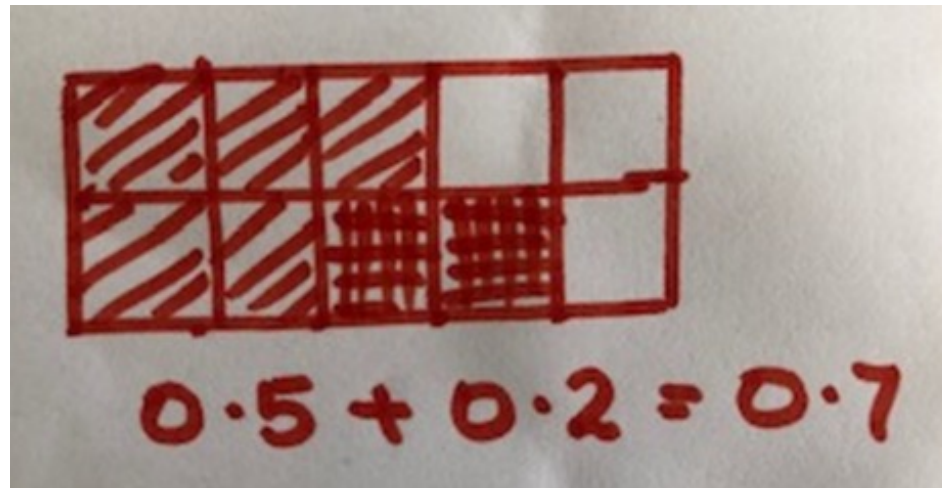
This also shows:

$$0.2 + 0.5$$

$$0.7 - 0.5$$

$$0.7 - 0.2$$

What is  $1.0 - 0.7 =$



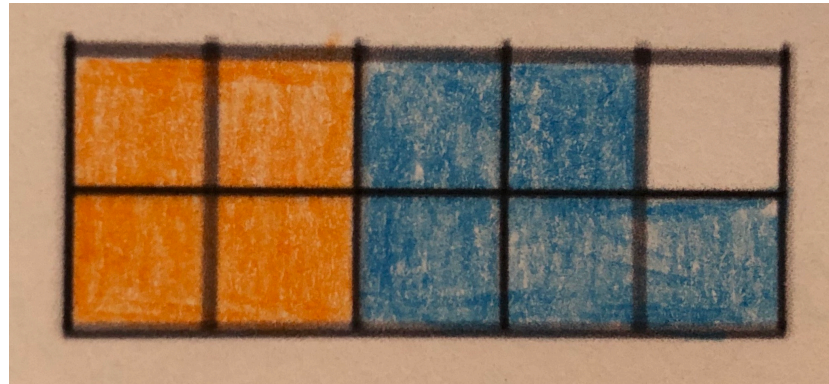
# Adding decimal tenths

Show on one rectangle  $0.4 + 0.5 =$

[shade so you can still see component parts of 0.4 and 0.5]

# Adding decimal tenths

Show on one rectangle  $0.4 + 0.5 =$



# Representing operations with decimal tenths

Show the following operations on your paper rectangles folded in tenths

$$0.9 - 0.3 =$$

$$3 \times 0.2 =$$

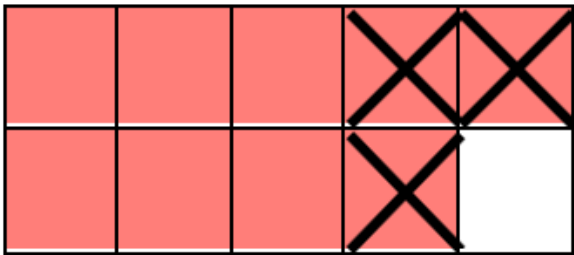
$$0.3 \times 2 =$$

$$0.8 \div 2 =$$

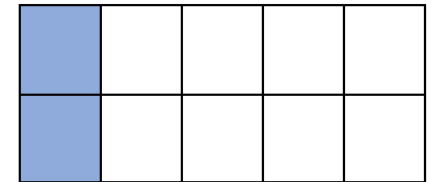
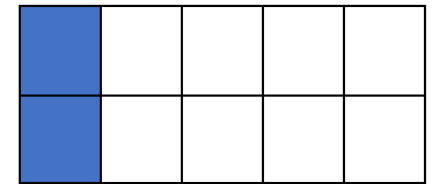
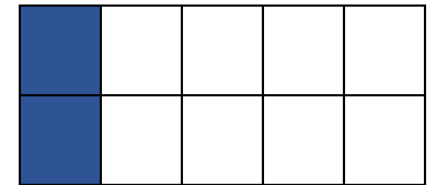
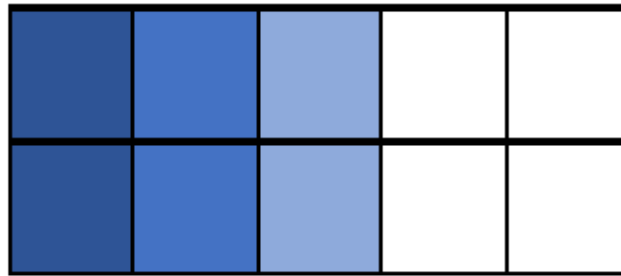
$$0.9 \div 0.3 =$$

# Representing operations with decimal tenths

$$0.9 - 0.3 =$$

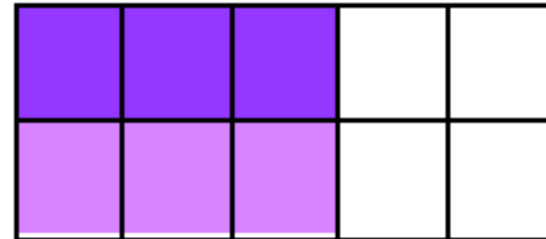
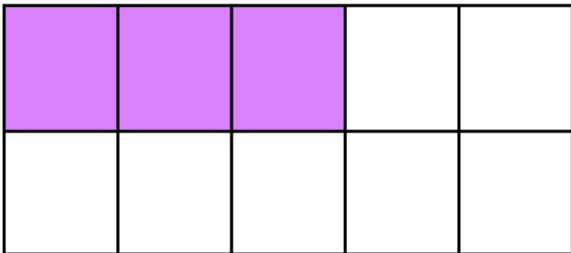
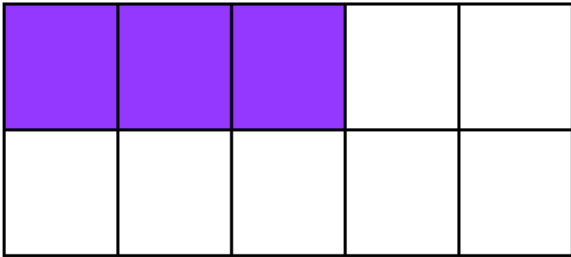


$$3 \times 0.2 =$$



# Representing operations with decimal tenths

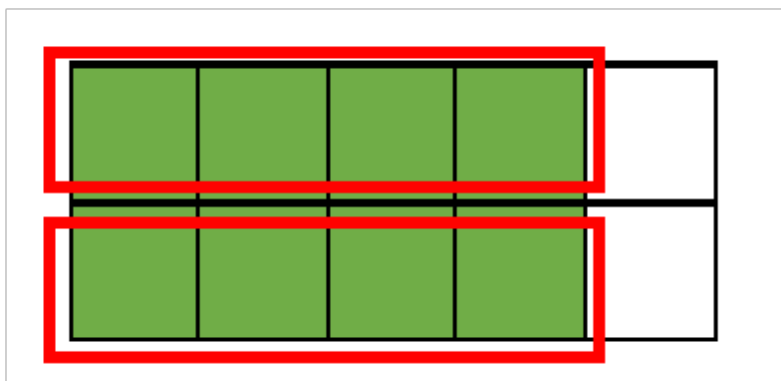
$$0.3 \times 2 =$$





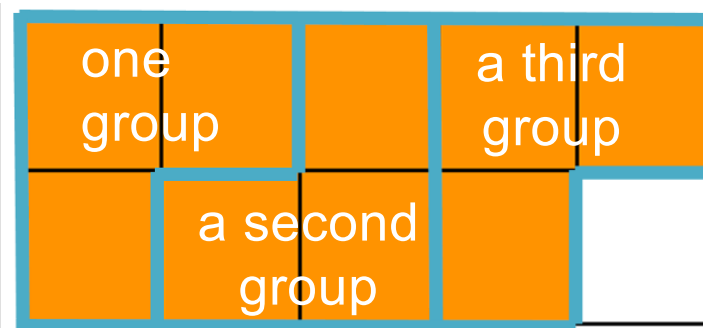
# Representing operations with decimal tenths

$$0.8 \div 2 =$$



partition division, splitting in two groups, how much is in one group?

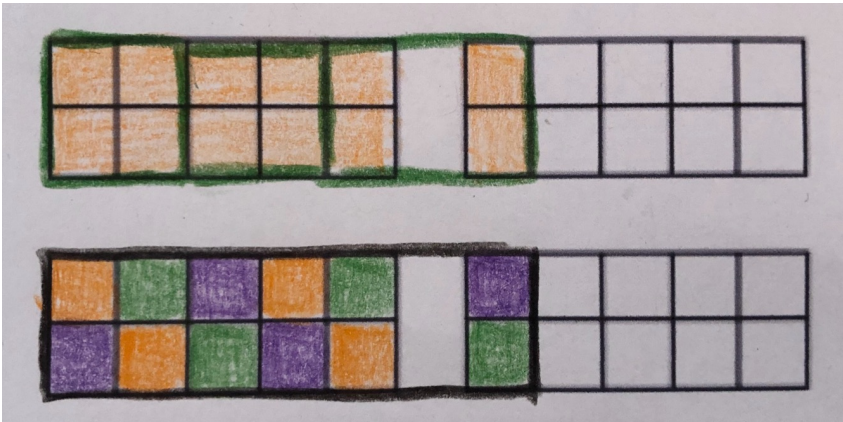
$$0.9 \div 0.3 =$$



quotient division, how many times does 0.3 going into 0.9?

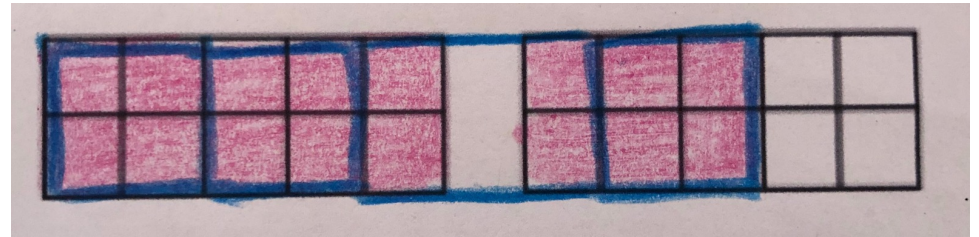
Now try..

$$1.2 \div 3 =$$



partition division,  
splitting in three groups,  
how much is in one group?

$$1.6 \div 0.4 =$$



quotient division,  
how many times does 0.4 go into  
1.6?

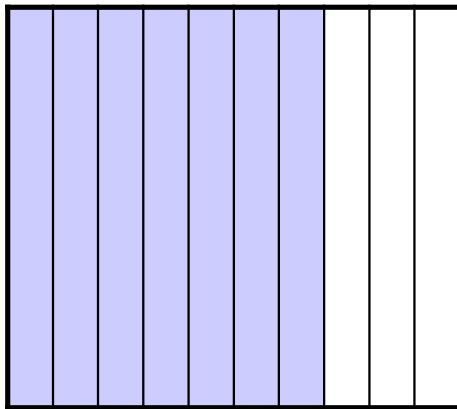


# Representing hundredths

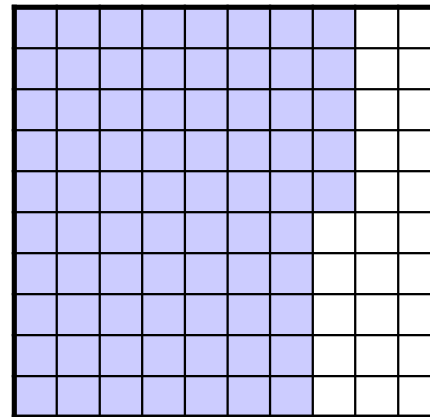


# Paper folding can connect decimals to fractions

- ❖ If a standard kinder square is a whole,
  - Fold it into tenths.
  - Fold a tenths into ten to make hundredths.
  - There's always one or two kids that want to make millionths...



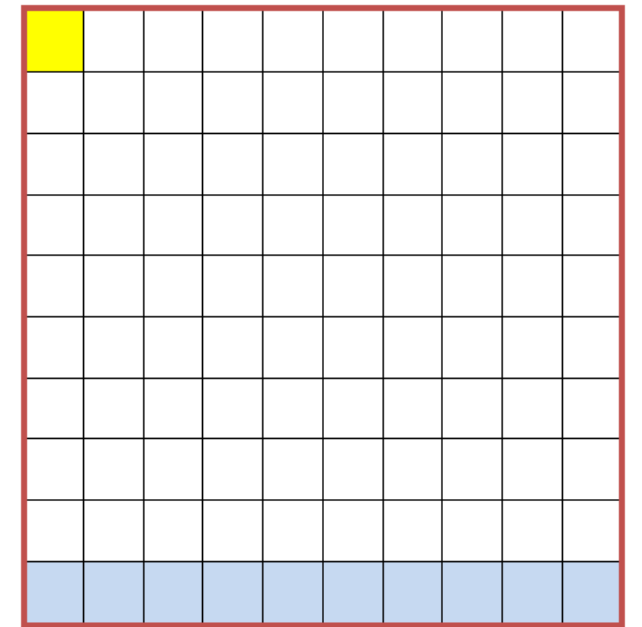
$$\frac{7}{10}$$



$$\frac{75}{100}$$

## Representing decimals (hundredths)

Draw around one Hundreds Grid with Texta or highlighter to indicate that the Hundreds Grid is one whole.



If the whole Hundreds Grid is one whole what fraction of the whole is the small square highlighted in yellow  
(one-hundredth or  $\frac{1}{100}$  or 0.01)

What fraction of the whole is the row of small squares highlighted in blue?  
(ten-hundredths or one-tenth or  $\frac{10}{100}$  or  $\frac{1}{10}$  or 0.1)

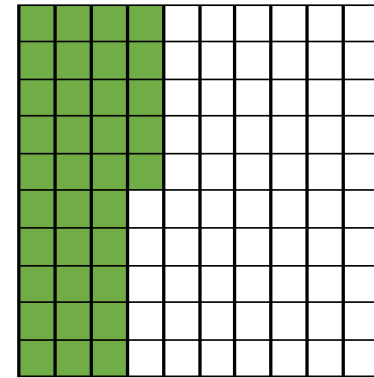
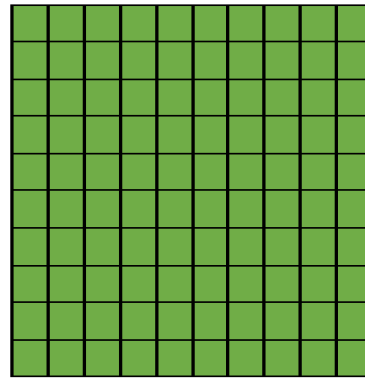
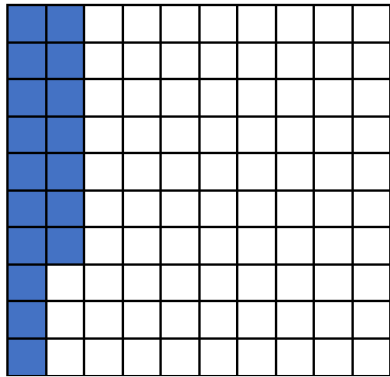


## Representing decimals (hundredths)

Show

0.17

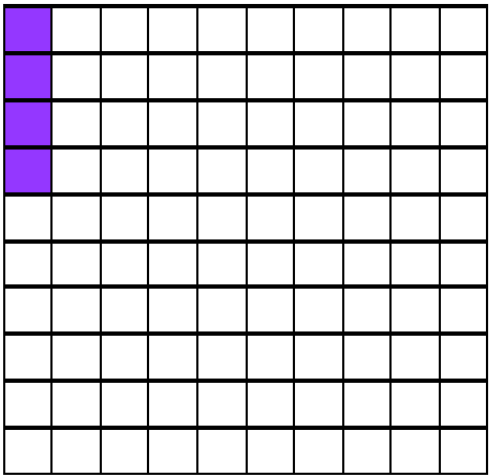
1.35



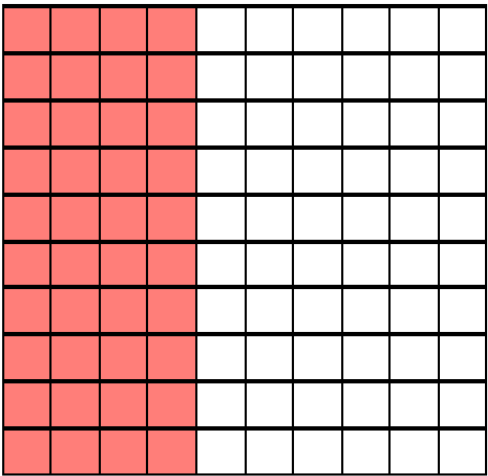
Show

0.04

0.4



What is the difference between 0.04 and 0.4?



# Calculations with hundredths

Show on squares marked in hundredths

$$0.37 + 0.5$$

$$0.63 - 0.28$$

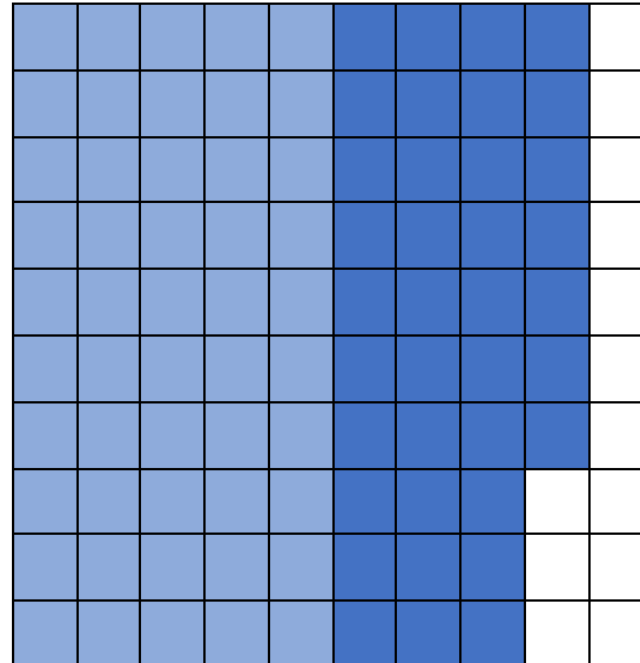
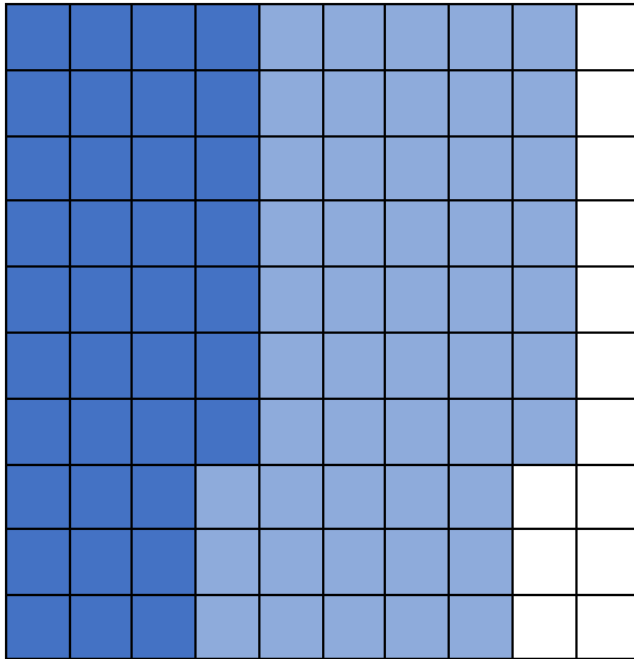
$$3 \times 0.23$$

$$0.36 \div 4$$



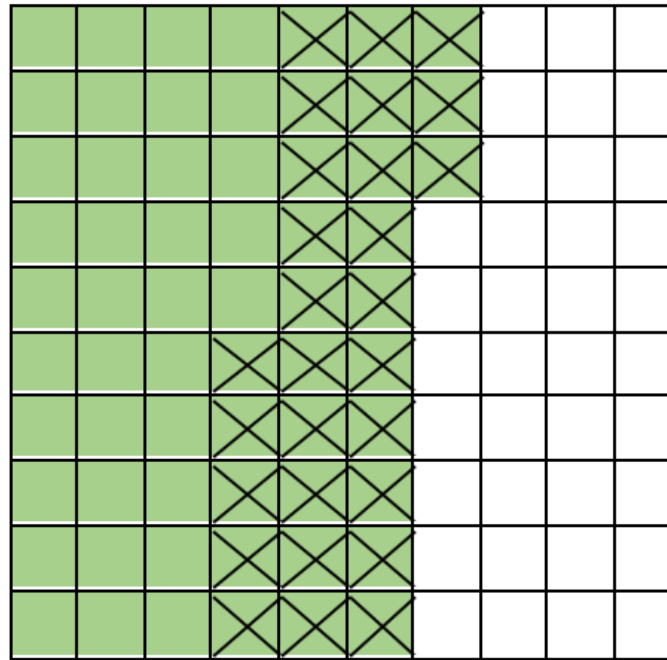
# Representing operations

$$0.37 + 0.5 = 0.87$$



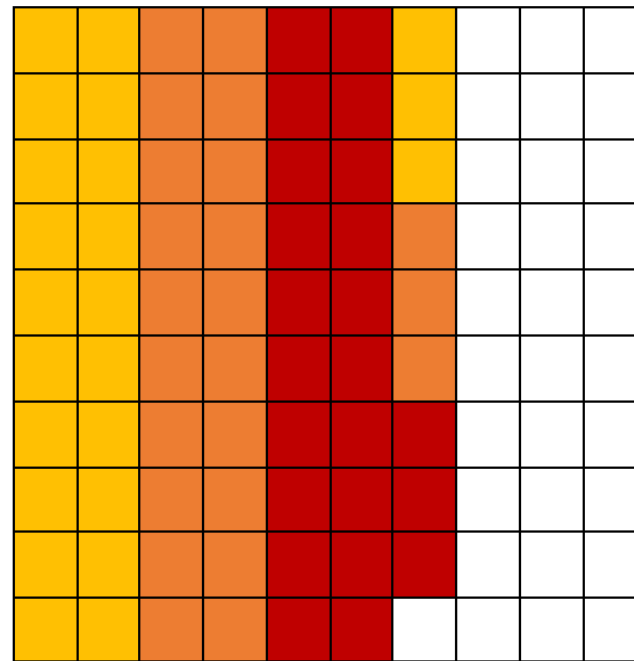
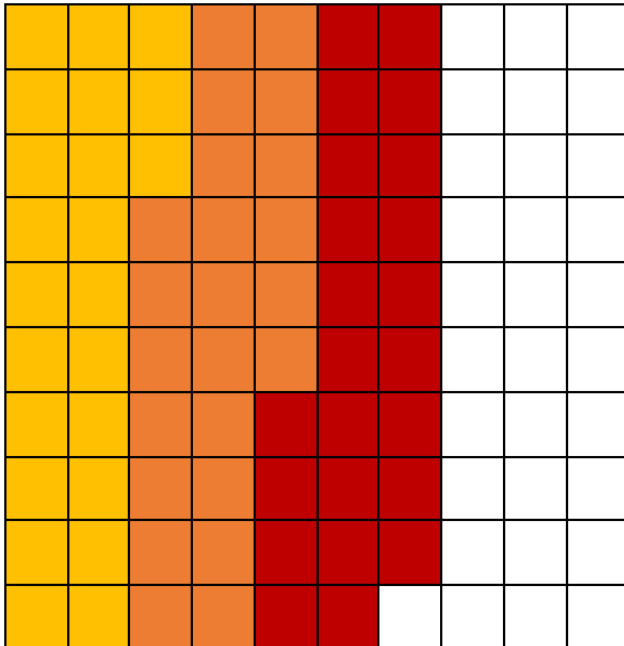
# Representing operations

$$0.63 - 0.28 = 0.35$$



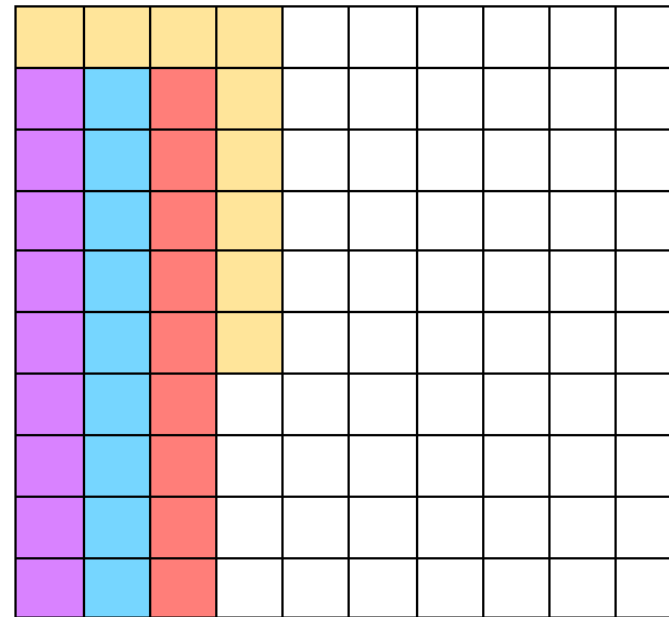
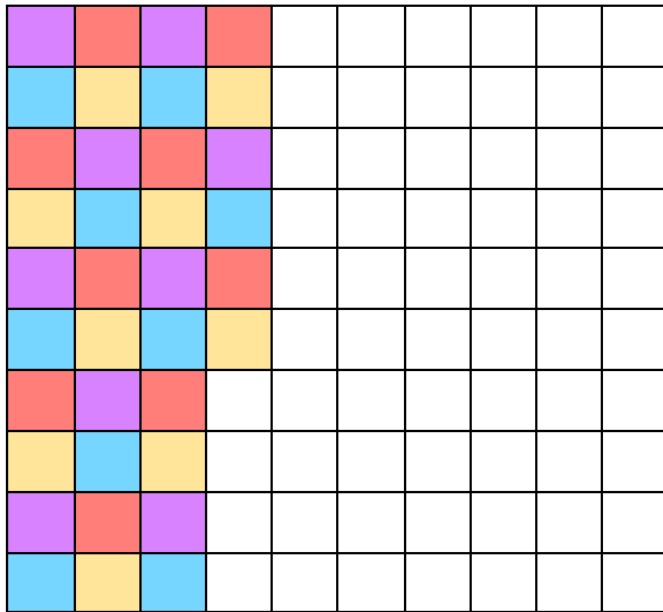
# Representing operations

$$3 \times 0.23 = 0.69$$



# Representing operations

$$0.36 \div 4 = 0.09$$





# Decimal Comparison Board



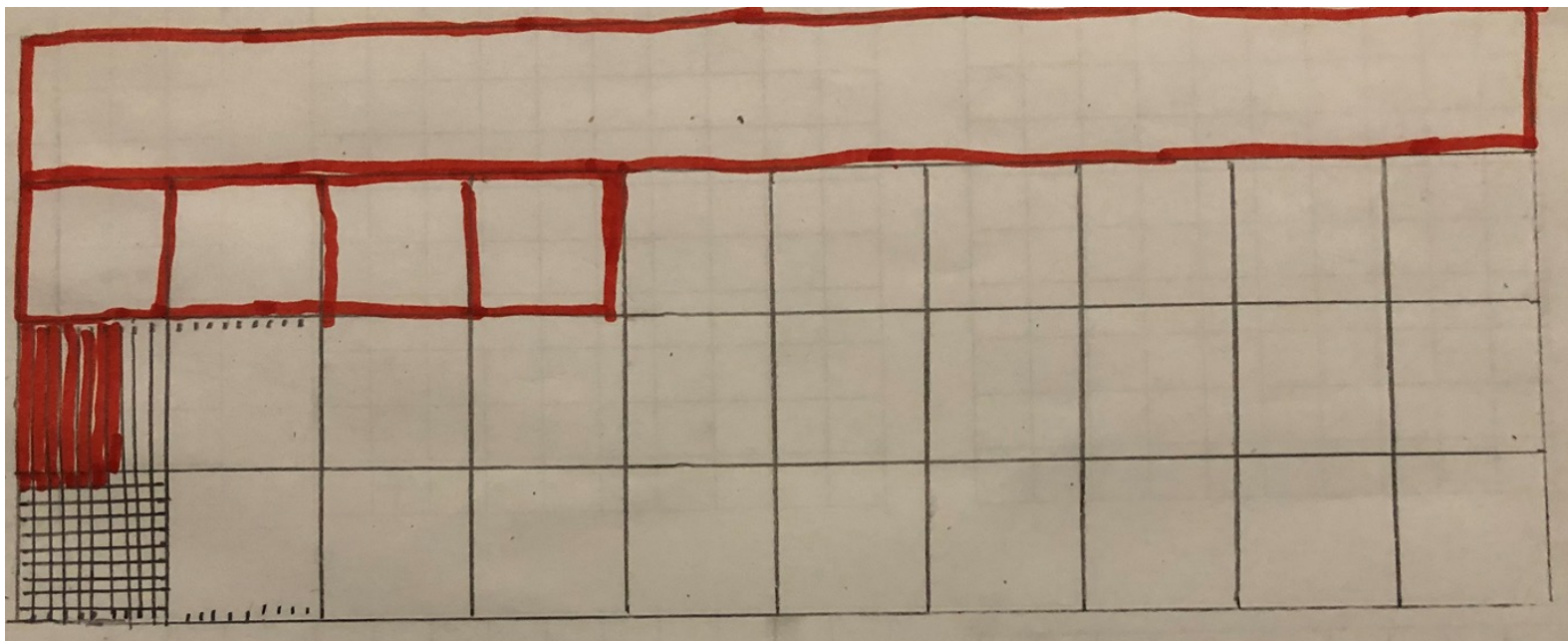
## Decimal (Comparison) Board

- The top row represents one whole
- The second row is divided into tenths
- The third row is divided into hundredths
- The bottom row is divided into thousandths

## Decimal Comparison Board



Shade the pieces to show 1.476



$$1.476 = 1 + 0.4 + 0.07 + 0.006$$

$$1 \frac{476}{1000} = 1 + \frac{4}{10} + \frac{7}{100} + \frac{6}{1000}$$

# Using a Decimal Fraction Board

Use a Decimal Fraction Board to show:

1.647

1.305

1.074

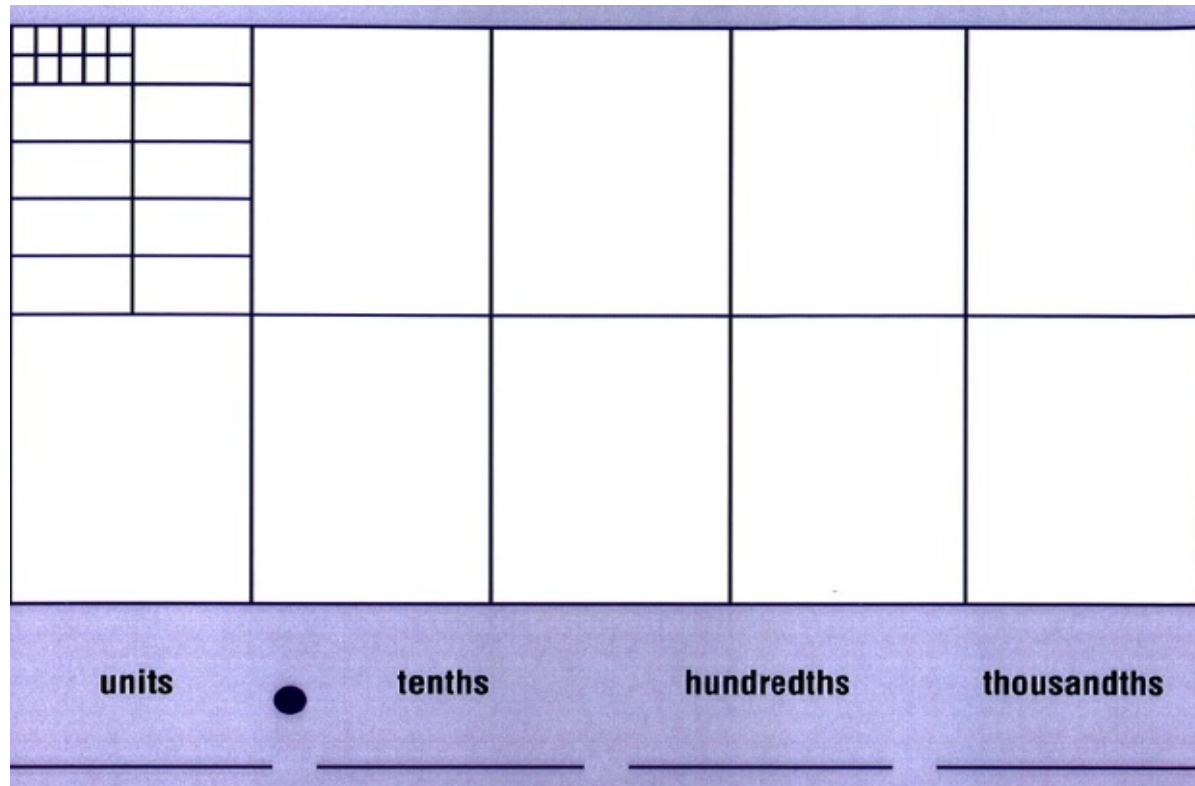
Why were these numbers chosen?





# Decimat\*

\* Roche, APMC(2), 2010 for the Decimat game; Wright, Hughes and Storey for Decimat development



A Decimat shows one whole, tenths, hundredths and thousandths

# Using a Decimat

- Take it in turns to roll the dice (6 or 10 sided, real or online)
- Your aim is to create the largest decimal you can with 4 rolls of the dice
- Record each number on one line under the Decimat as you roll (these cannot be changed if you roll a higher number)
- The winner is the person with the largest number.

**After you have created your number then colour in your Decimat to show that number.**

<table border="1"><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>																																		

units      •      tenths      hundredths      thousandths





# Decimal Number Expander



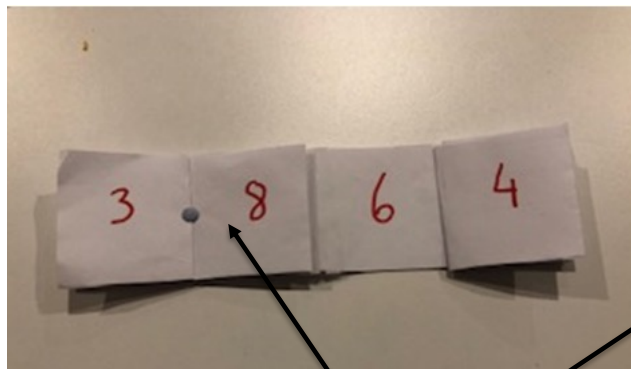
# Decimal number expanders

## Different expansions of 3.145

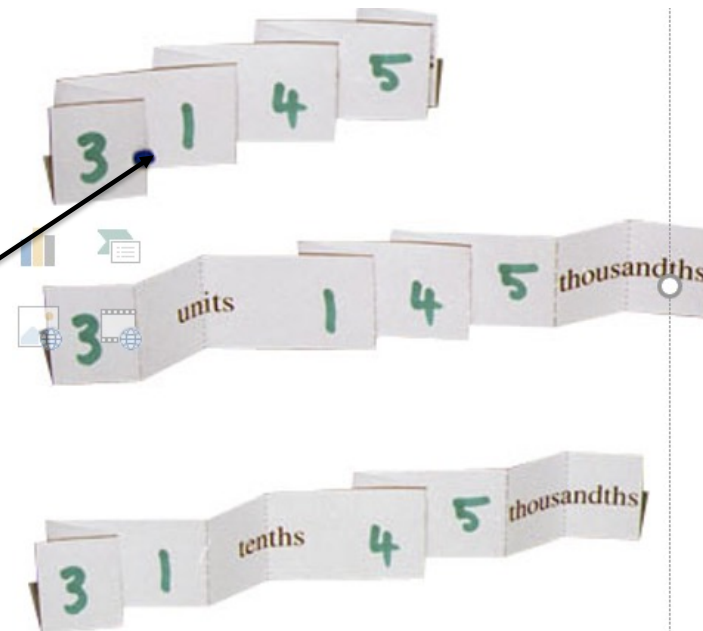
- A number expander is a simple aid to show the many ways of writing a number using expanded notation.
- Expansions can be written in words and/or fractions, e.g. 0.342 is 34 hundredths + 2 thousandths OR  $34/100 + 2/1000$ .
- Including zeros in the number expander can help students to understand which zeros are essential, and which can be omitted



# A decimal number expander



Please note the use of a removable dot when using the decimal number expander



	ones		tenths		hundredths		thousandths
--	------	--	--------	--	------------	--	-------------





# Decimal Comparison test





# Decimal Comparison Test

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

For each pair of decimal numbers, circle the one which is LARGER.

4.8                      4.63

0.5                      0.36

0.75                     0.8

0.37                     0.216

3.92                     3.4813

5.62                     5.736

0.6                      0.85

0.426                    0.3

2.516                    2.8325

7.942                    7.63

4.08                     4.7

1.85                     1.84

17.353                  17.35

© 'Teaching and Learning about Decimal Numbers' project,  
the University of Melbourne.

# Comparison of responses

NAME: STUDENT A

For each pair of decimal numbers, circle the one which is LARGER.

<u>4.8</u>	4.63
<u>0.5</u>	0.36
0.75	<u>0.8</u>
<u>0.37</u>	0.216
<u>3.92</u>	3.4813
<u>5.62</u>	5.736
<u>0.6</u>	0.85
0.426	<u>0.3</u>
<u>2.516</u>	2.8325
7.942	<u>7.63</u>
4.08	<u>4.7</u>
1.85	<u>1.84</u>
17.353	<u>17.35</u>

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NAME: STUDENT B

For each pair of decimal numbers, circle the one which is LARGER.

4.8	<u>4.63</u>
0.5	<u>0.36</u>
<u>0.75</u>	0.8
0.37	<u>0.216</u>
3.92	<u>3.4813</u>
5.62	<u>5.736</u>
0.6	<u>0.85</u>
<u>0.426</u>	0.3
2.516	<u>2.8325</u>
<u>7.942</u>	7.63
<u>4.08</u>	4.7
<u>1.85</u>	1.84
<u>17.353</u>	17.35

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the University of Melbourne.

# Resources

Tenths frame

Tenths grid

Hundredths grid

Decimat

Decimals Comparison Board

Number Expander

Decimals Comparison Test

# Questions



## Event App



### App Download Instructions

Step 1: Download the App 'Arinex One' from the App Store or Google Play



App Store



Google Play

Step 2: Enter Event Code: **mav**

Step 3: Enter the email you registered with

Step 4: Enter the Passcode you receive via email and click 'Verify'. Please be sure to check your Junk Mail for the email, or see the Registration Desk if you require further assistance.

# Be in it to WIN!

**B12 – (Year 3 to Year 8) What's the point? Exploring tools for teaching decimals effectively**

Curriculum

★ Remove from Favourite >

✎ Complete the Survey >

ⓘ Description >

## 🔗 Speakers



**Dr Carmel Mesiti**  
The University of Melbourne



**Kate Copping**  
Faculty of Education, The University of Melbourne

# Thank you



THE UNIVERSITY OF  

---

MELBOURNE

[kcopping@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:kcopping@unimelb.edu.au)