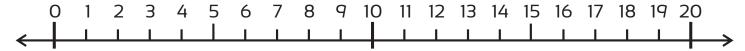


Teaching Strategies - Number Line Use

Number lines are excellent for counting activities, giving an uninterrupted view of the sequence of numbers. Using a number line with numbers on the top allows for fingers to touch the place for each number without obscuring the numeral.

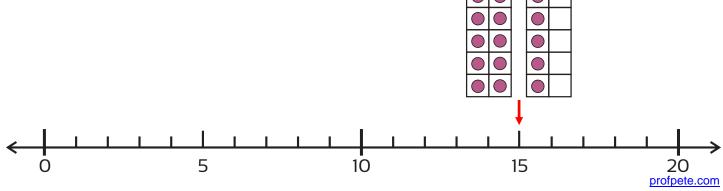


A number line shows where a number is in relation to another; for example, 16 is after 15:



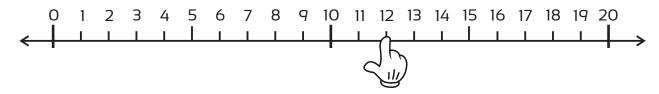
Number lines do not, however, show the value of the number (the actual number of items it represents) so number line activities should be used in conjunction with ten frame activities and place value introduction of the "teen" numbers.

Linking ten frames and number lines is an excellent activity as it links both the value of the number with its location on a number line:





Counting Forwards and Backwards



- Print off a set of number lines: one for each student in the class or group.
- For counting activities, use the number lines with the numbers on top so that fingers don't cover the number when counting.
- Check that students are pointing directly to each numeral on the number line as it is spoken.
- Ensure students are not counting ahead or pointing ahead.
- Check that students are not pointing to the spaces, but rather the actual mark on the line.



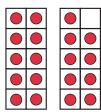
- Ask students to point to any numeral. "Point to 14" "Point to 12"
- Ask students how they know they have the right place.
- If students always count from 0 or 1 to find the number, then ask them to think of a quicker way to find the number such as 14 is "10 and 4 more", or "one before 15".
- Give them different number lines with fewer numbers on them and ask them to locate each number.
- Ask students "Point to the number that comes after 16", "Name that number", etc.

Use a large class number line:

- Point to a numeral and have students write or say the number located at that point.
- Use number lines with numerals missing and repeat the process. Have students use a strategy
 to finding the number rather than counting on repeatedly.



Matching with ten frames





- Hold up a ten frame flashcard or use the Ten Frames Gadget to show a number on the screen.
- Ask students to point to this number on their number line.



- Use the Ten Frame Gadget to show 14 1, by entering the equation on the keypad.
- Have students find the numbers on the number line:

