

Home Link Help: Number lines

Grade 3, Home Link 5-2

Number lines provide children with a tool for identifying, counting, skip counting, and ordering numbers. A number line provides visual and tactile support for developing number sense about the order and magnitude of numbers.

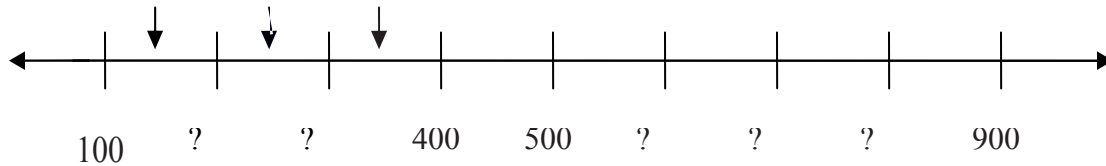
Help with Home Link Problems

When trying to figure out the missing numbers on the number line, there are a few steps to follow.

1. Determine the distance between the two numbers you know.
2. Determine the number of spaces between the two numbers.
3. Divide the distance by the number of spaces to find how much to add for each step.

Example:

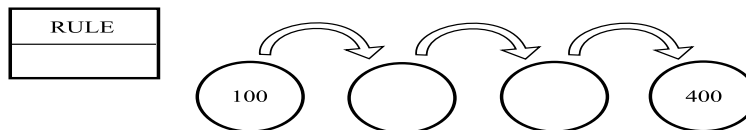
Find the missing numbers between 100 and 400



1. The distance between 100 and 400 is 300 (because $400 - 100 = 300$).
2. There are three spaces between 100 and 400 (note the indicators).
3. 300 divided by 3 is 100. Add 100 to each number to find the next number.

Sometimes it helps students to think of number line problems in a Frames-and-Arrows diagram. (See Student Reference Book pages 200 and 201 for more information about Frames-and-Arrows diagrams.)

For the first part of the number line above (the part between 100 and 400), the Frames-and-Arrows diagram would look like this:



For more information about working with number lines, turn to Student Reference Book, pages 10-12.

Extra Practice Ideas

Have your child figure out the other missing numbers on the number line above using a favorite method.

Draw another number line. First fill in all of the numbers (so you are sure you have the right sequence). Then cover several of the numbers and have your child figure out what numbers are covered using a favorite method.