

Reading and writing tenths; tenths on a number line

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

A tenth is one of ten equal parts of one whole, written 0.1 as a decimal or $\frac{1}{10}$ as a fraction. On a number line you count the equal tenth steps to read or write the value.

- The line from 0 to 1 splits into ten equal steps, and the first step lands on 0.1.
- 3 sits three steps past the whole number 1.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

READING 0.7 ON THE TENTHS LINE

- 1 Look at the number line from 0 to 1 split into ten equal steps.
- 2 Start at 0 and count along **seven** steps.
- 3 The mark you land on is written **0.7**.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT When you place tenths on a number line, what helps you find the right step?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 0.3

Q2: 0.6

Q3: 0.8

Q4: 0.1

Q5: 1.3

Q6: 1.6

a) **Always** — Each equal part is one tenth so the first step is always 0.1.

b) **Always** — Five tenths equal one half so the mark is always in the middle.

c) **Sometimes** — For values past 1 you count the extra tenths starting from 1.

d) **Always** — Count five equal tenth steps on from 1 to reach 1.5.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: $5.71 = 5 + 0.7 + 0.01$