

Lesson 38 **NUMBER**

Reading and writing decimals with tenths; tenths on a number line

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

A tenth is one of ten equal parts of a whole. We write tenths in the first place after the decimal point, so 0.1 means one tenth.

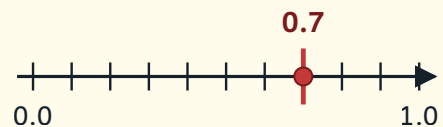
→ 0.5 sits exactly halfway between 0 and 1 on the track.

→ 1.2 is read 'one point two' and sits just past the whole lap 1.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

READING 0.7 ON THE NUMBER LINE

- 1 The number line runs from **0** to **1** and is split into **ten** equal parts, each worth **0.1**.
- 2 Count seven jumps of one tenth from 0: the mark sits at **0.7**.
- 3 Read it aloud as zero point **seven**.



DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT When you place a decimal on a number line, which whole-number landmark helps you most?

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: zero point four; 4

Q2: zero point six; 6

Q3: zero point five; exactly halfway

Q4: one point two; 1 whole and 2 tenths

Q5: one point eight; 1 whole and 8 tenths

a) **Always** — The first place after the point is always the tenths place.

b) **Always** — Five tenths is exactly half of ten tenths, so it is the midpoint.

c) **Always** — We say the point and then the tenths digit every time.

d) **Sometimes** — 0.4 sits before 1 but 1.2 sits after 1, so it depends on the number.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: between 7 and 8, closer to 7

S2: between 1 and 2, closer to 1

S3: between 4 and 5, closer to 4

S4: between 5 and 6, closer to 5

S5: between 1 and 2, closer to 1

Investigation: Tenths in real life — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.