## **COMPARING**

## A WHAT IS COMPARING?

**Discover:** You have marbles, and your friend has marbles.

Who has more marbles?

Answer: To find out who has more marbles, we need to compare the two numbers.

Since 3 = 0 is less than 4 = 0, your friend has more marbles than you. So, by comparing numbers, you can see who has more marbles.

## Definition Comparing

Comparing means looking at two numbers to see which one is bigger, smaller, or if they are the same.

## Definition Comparison Symbols

To compare numbers, we use three symbols:

=	equal	4	=	4
^	greater than	4	>	<b>8</b> 2
<	less than	3	<	5

To remember which way the > and < signs point, remember this:

- BIG > small
- $\bullet$  small < BIG

The small end of the symbol always points to the smaller number.