

Main ideas: Decimal numbers (and fractions)

- [Decimal Table](#) [Lessons 1-8]
- Purpose of decimal numbers: to express decimal fractions in easier way
 - “It has been recognized since 1593 by the German Jesuit astronomer C. Clavius that a decimal fraction is easier to write if we abandon the fraction symbol: just use the numerator and then keep track of the number of zeros in the denominator by the use of a so-called decimal point...” (Wu, 2011, p. 187)
- Definitions:
 - **decimal fraction:** fraction with denominator that is product of 10’s (positive power of 10)
 - Examples:
 - $\frac{3}{10}$
 - $\frac{487}{100} = \frac{487}{10 \times 10}$
 - width of hair: between $\frac{17}{10,000} = \frac{17}{10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10}$ & $\frac{181}{10,000} = \frac{181}{10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10}$ cm
 - **decimal number:** alternative notation for expressing decimal fraction
 - The number of zeros in the denominator of the decimal fraction corresponds to the number of digits to the right of the decimal point (**decimal digits**)
 - Examples:
 - $3/10 = 0.3$ (1 zero in denominator → 1 decimal digit)
 - $487/100 = 4.87$ (2 zeros in denominator → 2 decimal digits)
 - $181/10000 = 0.0181$ (4 zeros in denominator → 4 decimal digits)
 - Conventions:
 - The zero in front (to left) of the decimal point is only for the purpose of clarity and is optional
 - Ex: $3/10 = 0.3$ or $.3$
 - When the number of digits in numerator is *fewer* than number of zeros in denominator, zeros are inserted to the right of the decimal point to make the decimal digits clear and obvious
 - Ex: $181/10000 = 0.0181$ (3 digits in numerator, 4 zeros in denominator → need 1 zero inserted to right of decimal point)
 - Comparison of numbers (fractions, decimals)
 - **Equivalent** or **equal** (Grade 3 Standard 3.NF.3a): “ $1\frac{3}{10} = \frac{13}{10}$ ” means “ $1\frac{3}{10}$ and $\frac{13}{10}$ are the same point on the number line” or “same length (area, volume)”
 - **Greater than:** “ $\frac{13}{10} > 0.31$ ”, “ $\frac{13}{10}$ is greater than 0.31” means “ $\frac{13}{10}$ is to the right of 0.31 on the number line” or “ $\frac{13}{10}$ has more length (area, volume) than 0.31”
 - **Less than:** “ $0.31 < \frac{13}{10}$ ”, “0.31 is less than $\frac{13}{10}$ ” means “0.31 is to the left of $\frac{13}{10}$ on the number line” or “0.31 has less length (area, volume) than $\frac{13}{10}$ ”

Reference: Wu, H. (2011). *Understanding numbers in elementary school mathematics*. Providence: American Mathematical Society.

* Great Minds' Suggestions for Consolidation or Omissions: "In Module 6, students explore decimal numbers for the first time by means of the decimal numbers' relationship to decimal fractions. Module 6 builds directly from Module 5 and is foundational to students' Grade 5 work with decimal operations. Therefore, **it is not recommended to omit any lessons from Module 6.**"

A. Exploration of Tenths

Lesson 1: Use metric measurement to model the decomposition of one whole into tenths.

1. CD Activities 1 & 3; Problem Set 2-3, 5a

- Introduce definition of **decimal number**, **decimal fraction** (see Main Ideas at top of this page)
- Use definition of decimal number to represent a measurement as a decimal number and express a decimal fraction (tenths) as a decimal number (and vice versa)
- Use definitions of decimal number and fraction addition to express 1 cm as sum of tenths of cm
 - Example:

$$\frac{9}{10} + \frac{1}{10} = \frac{10}{10} = 1$$
 by fraction addition and definition of fraction

$$\frac{9}{10} = 0.9, \frac{1}{10} = 0.1, \frac{10}{10} = 1.0$$
 by definition of decimal number

$$\Rightarrow 0.9 + 0.1 = 1.0 = 1$$
 - Note: $1.0 = 1$ *because* $1.0 = \frac{10}{10}$ (definition of decimal number) and $1 = \frac{10}{10}$ (definition of fraction)
- See Materials on p. 14 of Teacher Edition; if not available, modify lesson to convey the key ideas

Lesson 2: Use metric measurement and area models to represent tenths as fractions greater than 1 and decimal numbers.

1. CD Problems 1-2; Problem Set 1b, 2c & e

- Represent tenths greater than 1:
 - with linear (measurement) and area models
 - as mixed number and decimal number
- **Key idea:** the **whole number** in a mixed number corresponds to the digits to the **left of the decimal point** and the **numerator** of the fraction in the mixed number corresponds to the digits to the **right of the decimal point**
 - Ex: $2\frac{6}{10} = 2.6$

- **Reasoning:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 2\frac{6}{10} \\
 &= 2 + \frac{6}{10} \text{ by definition of mixed number} \\
 &= \frac{20}{10} + \frac{6}{10} \text{ by equivalent fractions (Module 5): } 2 = \frac{2}{1} = \frac{2 \times 10}{10} \\
 &= \frac{26}{10} \text{ by fraction addition (Module 5)} \\
 &= 2.6 \text{ by definition of decimal number}
 \end{aligned}$$

Lesson 3: Represent mixed numbers with units of tens, ones, and tenths with place value disks, on the number line, and in expanded form.

1. CD Problems 1-3; Problem Set 1a, 3a-b

- Represent tenths greater than 1:
 - with place value disks and on number line
 - as mixed number and decimal number
 - in fraction expanded form and decimal expanded form

B. Tenths and Hundredths

Lesson 4: Use meters to model the decomposition of one whole into hundredths. Represent and count hundredths.

1. CD Problem 1; Problem Set 1b, 2b-c

- Build on Lesson 1 by introducing decimal form of hundredths (definition of **decimal number**)
- Use definitions to express 1 cm as $\frac{1}{100}$ m and 0.01 m
- Use equivalent fractions to express tenths meter as hundredths meter in fraction and decimal form
 - **Key fact:** there are 10 hundredths in every tenth

2. CD Problem 2; Problem Set 3c, 4b-c

- Represent sum of tenths and hundredths less than 1:
 - with linear (measurement) model
 - in fraction and decimal form
- **Key idea:** $0.2 + 0.05 = 0.25$

Reasoning:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & 0.2 + 0.05 \\
 &= \frac{2}{10} + \frac{5}{100} \text{ by definition of decimal number} \\
 &= \frac{20}{100} + \frac{5}{100} \text{ by equivalent fractions (Module 5): } \frac{2}{10} = \frac{2 \times 10}{10 \times 10} \\
 &= \frac{25}{100} \text{ by fraction addition (Module 5)} \\
 &= 0.25 \text{ by definition of decimal number}
 \end{aligned}$$

Lesson 5: Model the equivalence of tenths and hundredths using the area model and place value disks.

1. CD Problems 1 & 3; Problem Set 2, 3b, 4b-c

- Represent equivalence of tenths and hundredths with area model and place value disks
- Reverse direction of Lesson 4 CD Problem 2:
 - Represent decimal (hundredths) in fraction form and as sum of hundredths and tenths (“unit form”)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &0.16 \\
 &= \frac{16}{100} \text{ by definition of decimal number} \\
 &= \frac{10}{100} + \frac{6}{100} \text{ by fraction addition (Module 5)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} + \frac{6}{100} \text{ by equivalent fractions (Module 5): } \frac{10}{100} = \frac{10 \div 10}{100 \div 10} \\
 &= 1 \text{ tenth} + 6 \text{ hundredths}
 \end{aligned}$$

- **Key idea:** $0.10 = 0.1$

Reasoning:

$$\begin{aligned}
 &0.10 \\
 &= \frac{10}{100} \text{ by definition of decimal number} \\
 &= \frac{10 \div 10}{100 \div 10} \text{ by equivalent fractions (Module 5)} \\
 &= \frac{1}{10} \\
 &= 0.1 \text{ by definition of decimal number}
 \end{aligned}$$

Lesson 6: Use the area model and number line to represent mixed numbers with units of ones, tenths, and hundredths in fraction and decimal forms.

1. CD Problems 1-2; Problem Set 2, 3a-b
 - Represent hundredths greater than 1:
 - with area model and on number line
 - as mixed number and decimal number
 - in “unit form”

Lesson 7: Model mixed numbers with units of hundreds, tens, ones, tenths, and hundredths in expanded form and on the place value chart.

1. CD Problem 2; Problem Set 2
 - Identify the value of each digit in a decimal (hundredths)
2. CD Problem 3; Problem Set 3 b-c
 - Express decimal number in decimal and fraction expanded form

Lesson 8: Use understanding of fraction equivalence to investigate decimal numbers on the place value chart expressed in different units.

1. CD Problems 1-2; Problem Set 2 & 5
 - Use area model or place value chart to express a mixed number or decimal number in tenths or hundredths
 - *2 ones 4 tenths*

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= 2 + \frac{4}{10} \\
 &= \frac{20}{10} + \frac{4}{10} \text{ by equivalent fractions: } 2 = \frac{2}{1} = \frac{2 \times 10}{10} \\
 &= \frac{24}{10} \text{ by fraction addition } \rightarrow 24 \text{ tenths} \\
 &= \frac{240}{100} \text{ by equivalent fractions: } \frac{24}{10} = \frac{24 \times 10}{10 \times 10} \rightarrow 240 \text{ hundredths} \\
 \circ \quad &2.4 \\
 &= \frac{24}{10} \text{ by definition of decimal number } \rightarrow 24 \text{ tenths} \\
 &= \frac{240}{100} \text{ by equivalent fractions: } \frac{24}{10} = \frac{24 \times 10}{10 \times 10} \rightarrow 240 \text{ hundredths}
 \end{aligned}$$

C. Decimal Comparison

Lesson 9: Use the place value chart and metric measurement to compare decimals and answer comparison questions.

- CD Problems 1-3; Problem Set 1a, 2a, 3b
 - Use linear models (tape measurement, graduated cylinder, weight scale) and definitions of **equal**, **greater than**, **less than** to compare decimal numbers
 - See Materials on p. 145 of Teacher Edition; if not available, modify lesson to convey the key ideas
 - Recommendation:** introduce comparison on number line and area model (Lesson 10) before comparison with place value chart

Lesson 10: Use area models and the number line to compare decimal numbers, and record comparisons using $<$, $>$, and $=$.

- CD Problems 1-2; Problem Set 1a, 2a
 - Use linear (number line) and area models and definitions of **equal**, **greater than**, **less than** to compare decimal numbers

Lesson 11: Compare and order mixed numbers in various forms.

- CD Problem 1; Problem Set 1b
 - Use definitions of fractions, mixed numbers, and decimals to locate numbers on number line
- CD Problem 2; Problem Set 2a
 - Use definitions of equal, greater than, less than to order numbers

D. Addition with Tenths and Hundredths

Lesson 12: Apply understanding of fraction equivalence to add tenths and hundredths.

- CD Problems 1-3; Problem Set 2b, 3b, 4a
 - Use equivalent fractions to add decimal fractions (tenths and hundredths)

Lesson 13: Add decimal numbers by converting to fraction form.

1. CD Problem 3; Problem Set 2b, 3a & d
 - Build on Lessons 5-8 to add mixed numbers and decimal numbers

Lesson 14: Solve word problems involving the addition of measurements in decimal form.

1. CD Problems 2-3 (Problem Set); Exit Ticket
 - Solve word problems involving addition of decimal measurements

E. Money Amounts as Decimal Numbers

Lesson 15: Express money amounts given in various forms as decimal numbers.

1. CD Problem 1; Problem Set 3, 8, 12
 - Express value of coins as decimal fraction or decimal number
2. CD Problems 2-3; Problem Set 16 & 20
 - Express total value of combination of coins or sets of bills and coins as decimal fraction or decimal number

Lesson 16: Solve word problems involving money.

1. CD Problems 1, 3 (Problem Set); Problem Set 2
 - Solve word problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication, and/or division of values of bills and coins