



**Craft**  
**Ages 3–5**  
**15–30 minutes**

## Greater Than Less Alligators

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### Description

Make math fun by creating greater than, less than and equal to alligators out of popsicle sticks. Use them to solve math equations.

### Space Considerations

Any type of space where kids can be seated to do a craft

### Competencies

- Creative and imaginative thinking
- Logic and sequencing
- Mathematics
- Problem solving

### Materials

- Card stock
- Permanent markers
- Popsicle sticks
- Foam sheets
- Googly eyes
- Pompoms
- Glue sticks

### Preparation

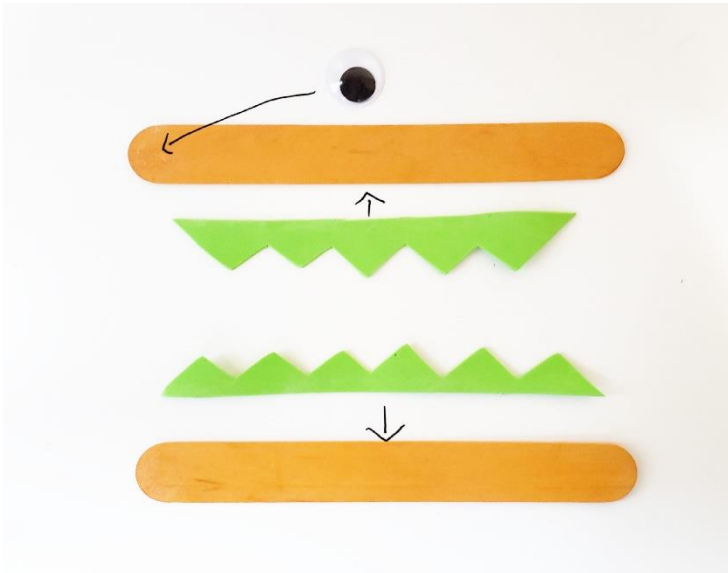
- Print equation and number templates on card stock
- Distribute 6 popsicle sticks, 2 foam sheets and 6 googly eyes to each participant
- Set out glue sticks, permanent markers, templates and extra foam sheets

# Implementation

## Create the Equation Symbols

### Less Than Alligator

1. Cut out teeth from foam sheets and glue them onto the popsicle sticks.



2. Add a googly eye to the left end of the stick with the top teeth and glue the two popsicle sticks together on the same side. The alligator's open mouth faces the right, making a less than sign.



### Greater Than Alligator

3. Repeat the steps above, but instead attach the sticks on the right and place the googly eye on that side. This alligator's open mouth faces left, making a greater than sign.



### Equal Alligator

4. Repeat step 1 and then add two googly eyes to the center of the top popsicle stick. Do not glue these popsicle sticks together.



## Do Math Equations

5. Complete equations using numbers, pompoms and the alligator signs. Use the optional template if you like.
6. Try equations using mini pompoms instead of numbers or equations without the pompoms and just the numbers.



## Accessibility Considerations

- Provide large glue sticks, pre-cut teeth and medium- and large-sized pompoms
- Use large markers and card stock pages to make equations.

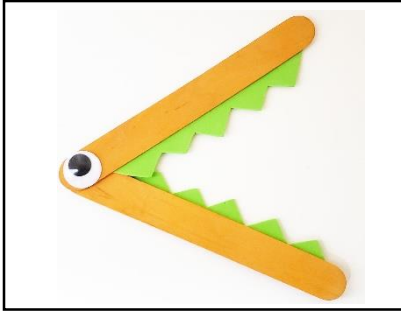
## Book Suggestions

*5-Minute Basketball Stories* by Sarah Howden

*Lucy Tries Basketball* by Lisa Bowes

## Images and Templates

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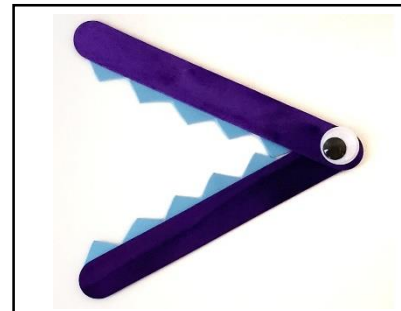


5

5



3



<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>&lt;</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>&gt;</b>

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