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# USING -1 TO 1 DECIMAL CARDS



1. Give a child/ children cards  $-0.5$  to  $0.5$  and ask them to place them in order. If they place  $-0.1 -0.2 -0.3 -0.4 -0.5 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5$  which is a common misunderstanding, then ask them what comes before  $-0.1$  (pointing to the beginning of their order). They may say  $0$ , which can then lead to a conversation where they have to reorder the negative numbers to the correct answer.
2. Give the children a selection of 5 cards to place in order. If they make any mistakes return to activity 1 with consecutive numbers.
3. Give the children a selection of cards to place in order but ask them to place the cards vertically instead of horizontally.
4. Shuffle the cards and ask the children to select 2 cards. Ask the children to find the difference. If the children need support then use a number line or number grid with negative numbers, or use the cards to create a number line. (Many children do not fully understand that difference is one of the 2 ways we understand subtraction. Teachers may wish to be careful how they ask children to write answers. Writing "the difference between  $-0.3$  and  $0.5$  is  $0.8$ " may be preferable to  $0.5 - (-0.3)=0.8$ )

