

Read and Write Decimals



Dear Family,

This week your child is learning how to read and write decimals.

The table below shows different ways to represent the number 5.387.

Standard Form	5.387										
Word Form	five and three hundred eighty-seven thousandths										
Place-Value Chart	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Ones</th><th>.</th><th>Tenths</th><th>Hundredths</th><th>Thousandths</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>5</td><td>.</td><td>3</td><td>8</td><td>7</td></tr></tbody></table>	Ones	.	Tenths	Hundredths	Thousandths	5	.	3	8	7
Ones	.	Tenths	Hundredths	Thousandths							
5	.	3	8	7							
Decimal Expanded Form	$5 + 0.3 + 0.08 + 0.007$ or $5 + (3 \times 0.1) + (8 \times 0.01) + (7 \times 0.001)$										
Fraction Expanded Form	$5 + \frac{3}{10} + \frac{8}{100} + \frac{7}{1,000}$ or $5 + \left(3 \times \frac{1}{10}\right) + \left(8 \times \frac{1}{100}\right) + \left(7 \times \frac{1}{1,000}\right)$										
Mixed Number	$5\frac{387}{1,000}$										

Understanding different ways to read and write decimals helps prepare your child for comparing decimals and solving problems with decimals.

Invite your child to share what he or she knows about reading and writing decimals by doing the following activity together.

ACTIVITY READING AND WRITING DECIMALS

Do this activity with your child to read and write decimals.

Materials number cube

- Use the two tables below, one for you and one for your child. Have your child roll the number cube. You and your child each write the digit shown on the cube in one place in your place-value chart. You should each write the digit in a different place in your chart.
- Have your child roll the number cube three more times. Write each digit rolled in your place-value charts. For example, if the digits 1, 3, 5, and 6 are rolled, you might write 3.615 and your child might write 5.361.
- Now, write the decimal in word form and in standard form in your charts.
- Ask your child to explain why the order of the digits matters when writing decimals.

Place-Value Chart	Ones	.	Tenths	Hundredths	Thousandths
		.			
Word Form					
Standard Form					

Place-Value Chart	Ones	.	Tenths	Hundredths	Thousandths
		.			
Word Form					
Standard Form					