To know how to estimate the position of a number on a number line
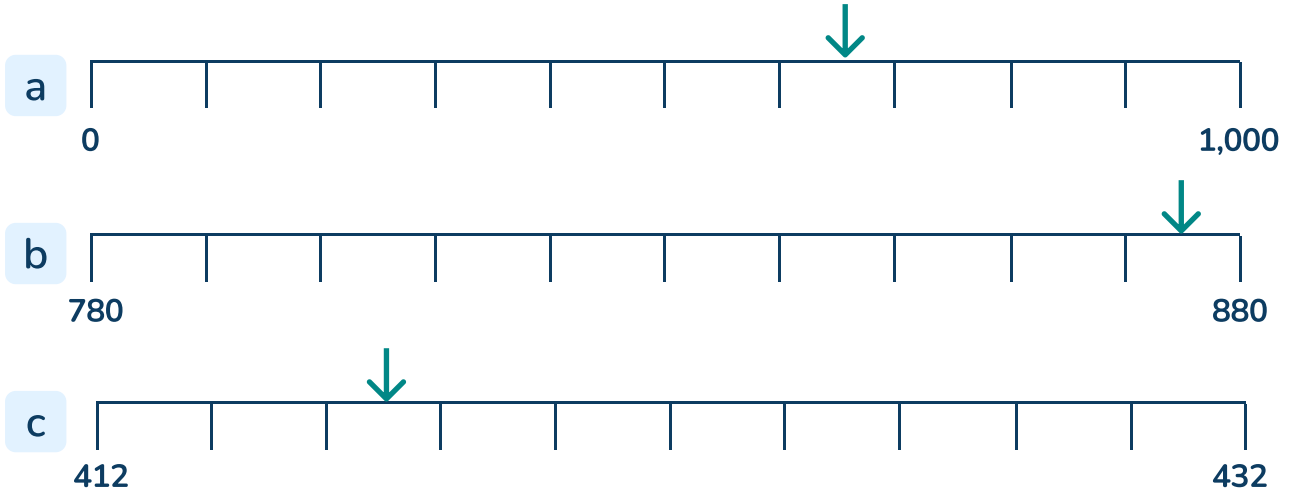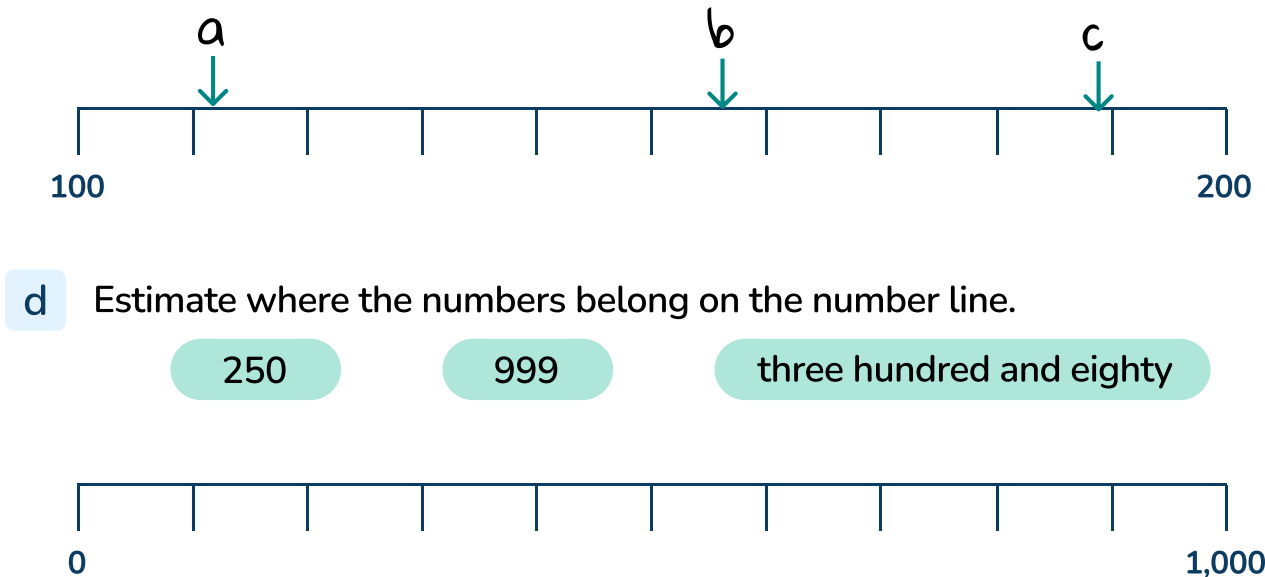
1 Estimate the number that the arrow is pointing to.

a

0   1,000

b

780   880

c

412   432

2 Estimate the numbers the arrows are pointing to.

a   b   c

100   200

d Estimate where the numbers belong on the number line.

(250)   (999)   (three hundred and eighty)

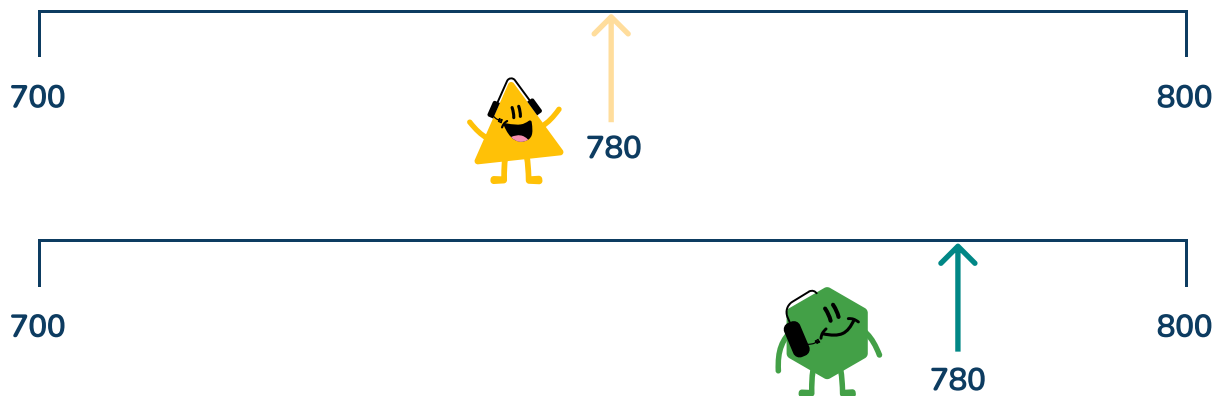0   1,000

To know how to estimate the position of a number on a number line

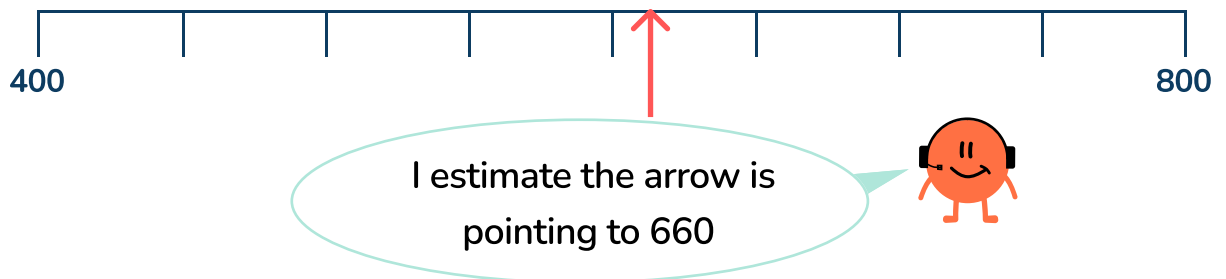**3** **a** The Mathlings have estimated where 780 belongs on the same number line.

Which Mathling has made the best estimate?

Can both Mathlings be wrong?

Explain your reasoning.

700   780   800

700   780   800

b Explain why the Mathling cannot be correct.

400   800

I estimate the arrow is
pointing to 660

To know how to estimate the position of a number on a number line

Question Number	Question	Answer
1	a to c) Estimate the number that the arrow is pointing to.	a) 650 b) 875 c) 417
2	a to c) Estimate the numbers the arrows are pointing to. d) Estimate where the numbers belong on the number line.	a) 111 b) 156 c) 189 d) Arrows should be positioned appropriately.
3	a) The Mathlings have estimated where 780 belongs on the same number line. b) Explain why the Mathling cannot be correct.	a) The first Mathling is unlikely to be correct because the yellow arrow is close to the midpoint of the line. The number at the midpoint is 750. This Mathling has probably put his arrow at 760. The other Mathling has put his arrow further away from the midpoint 750. It is more likely to be correct. Both Mathlings are estimating the position of 780, so it is possible that neither of them have put their arrow at exactly 780. b) The Mathling is not correct. The number line starts at 400 and ends at 800. The interval is 50. The Mathling's arrow is between 600 and 650 but is closer to 600. Its arrow might be pointing to 610.