

## 1st Grade Math: Ordinal Numbers

**Objective:** Students will learn about ordinal numbers and how to use them to describe the position of objects in a sequence.

### What are Ordinal Numbers?

Ordinal numbers tell the **position** or **order** of things in a list or sequence. Instead of saying "1, 2, 3," we use words like:

- **First (1st)**
- **Second (2nd)**
- **Third (3rd)**
- **Fourth (4th)**

### Example of Ordinal Numbers

If you are standing in line with five friends, your position could be described as:

1. **First (1st)** person in line.
2. **Second (2nd)** person in line.
3. **Third (3rd)** person in line.
4. **Fourth (4th)** person in line.
5. **Fifth (5th)** person in line.

### How to Use Ordinal Numbers

- **First:** The item or person at the very beginning.
- **Second:** The item or person right after the first.
- **Third:** Comes after the second.
- **Fourth:** Comes after the third.
- **Fifth:** Comes after the fourth, and so on.

**Ordinal numbers** continue this way to describe the position of things in a list.

## Key Ordinal Numbers:

Number	Ordinal Number (Word)	Ordinal Number (Symbol)
1	First	1st
2	Second	2nd
3	Third	3rd
4	Fourth	4th
5	Fifth	5th
6	Sixth	6th
7	Seventh	7th
8	Eighth	8th
9	Ninth	9th
10	Tenth	10th

## Activity: Identify Ordinal Numbers

### Materials Needed:

- 5 small toys or objects
- A table or a flat surface

### Instructions:

1. Line up the 5 objects in a row.
2. Ask the students to name the position of each object using ordinal numbers. For example:
  - Which object is in **first** place?
  - Which object is in **third** place?
  - Which object is in **fifth** place?

## Real-Life Examples of Ordinal Numbers

1. **Races:** Who came in first, second, or third place in a race?
2. **Days of the Month:** The **first** day of the month is the 1st, the **second** day is the 2nd, etc.
3. **Classroom Line:** When lining up, you might be the **first** person in line, or the **fifth** person.

### Practice:

**Question 1:** If a cat is the **fourth** in a line of animals, how many animals are in front of it?

**Answer:** Three animals are in front of it.

**Question 2:** What position is the second-to-last person in a line of 5 people?

**Answer:** The **fourth** position.

## **Summary**

Ordinal numbers help us understand the **position** of things in a sequence. They are useful in everyday life, whether we're talking about days of the month, our place in line, or the order of events in a story.