Parents: in year 2, children are taught the ‘greater than’ and ‘less than’ symbols (< and >), alongside the ‘equals’ symbol (=), and begin to use these symbols in number sentences. We teach them that the < and > symbols resemble a crocodiles mouth and the crocodile always eats the bigger number (for example 45<81, 32>20). The children know that the = symbol means that the numbers are equal (the same) on each side.

