

Significant Figures Sort

Cut, sort, and justify your thinking

Instructions: Cut out the heading cards and number cards. Sort each number under the heading that shows its correct number of significant figures. Be prepared to justify your choices.

1 SF

2 SF

3 SF

4 SF

5 SF

6 SF

Number Cards

3000000	0.040	45.6	0.004560	5.0001	123456
7000.	0.0098	10400	81.02	602.03	100.02
90.00	0.0000783	7008	0.06789	70000.	1.20
0.000900	0.00050	812.4	50.0	3.14159	400.04

Teacher Answer Key

	3000000
1 SF	
	0.0098, 0.00050
2 SF	
	45.6, 10400, 0.0000783, 1.20, 0.000900, 50.0
3 SF	
	0.040, 0.004560, 7000., 81.02, 90.00, 7008, 812.4
4 SF	
	5.0001, 602.03, 100.02, 0.06789, 70000., 400.04
5 SF	
	123456, 3.14159
6 SF	

Teacher note: This activity assumes that trailing zeros in whole numbers are significant only when a decimal point is shown. Therefore, 3000000 has 1 significant figure, 10400 has 3 significant figures, 7000. has 4 significant figures, and 70000. has 5 significant figures.