



# **READING BIG NUMBERS OUT LOUD**

# Learning to read numbers to a million and beyond

We've recently seen two famous people having a few problems reading out big numbers on TV news reports...



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Under pressure, it can be a tricky task, but with plenty of practice, reading big numbers is a skill you can master and be better than world leaders at reading them out loud when you see them!



# Learning to read numbers to a million and beyond

We write out large numbers in chunks of three (from the right hand side), usually separated by a comma or a space –

5,400

6 582 301

7 327

10,763,045

98,498

These numbers can look a bit overwhelming but as long as you can read numbers in the hundreds, tens and ones, you can do this with practice!

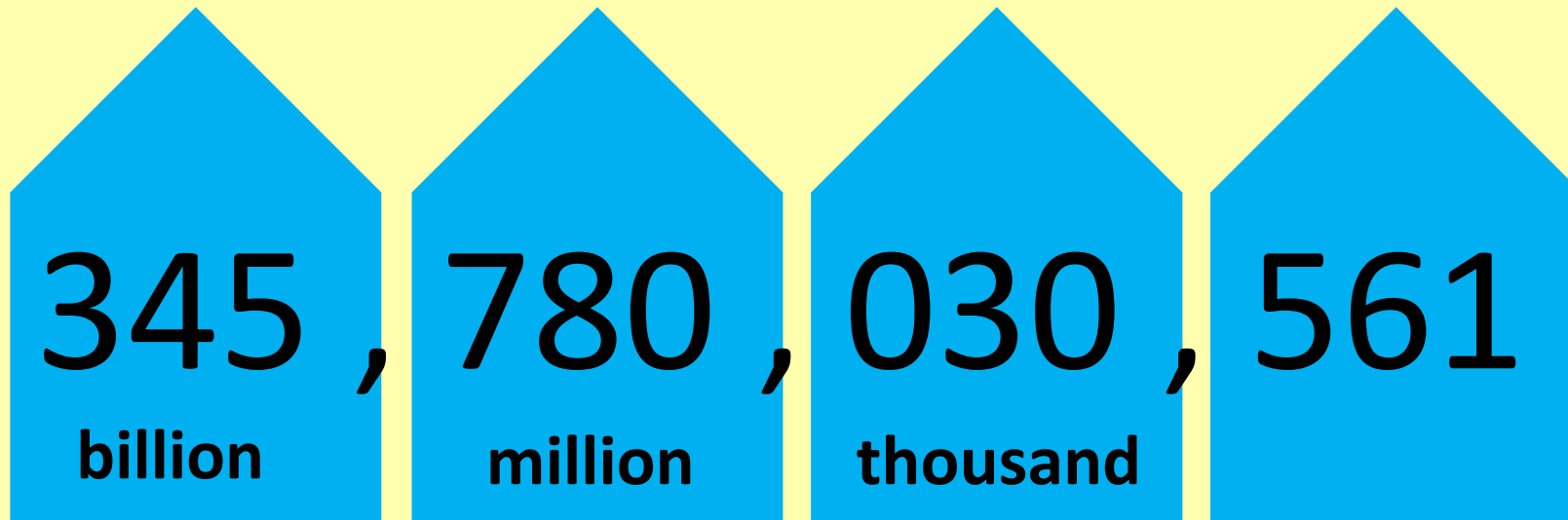
17

8

345

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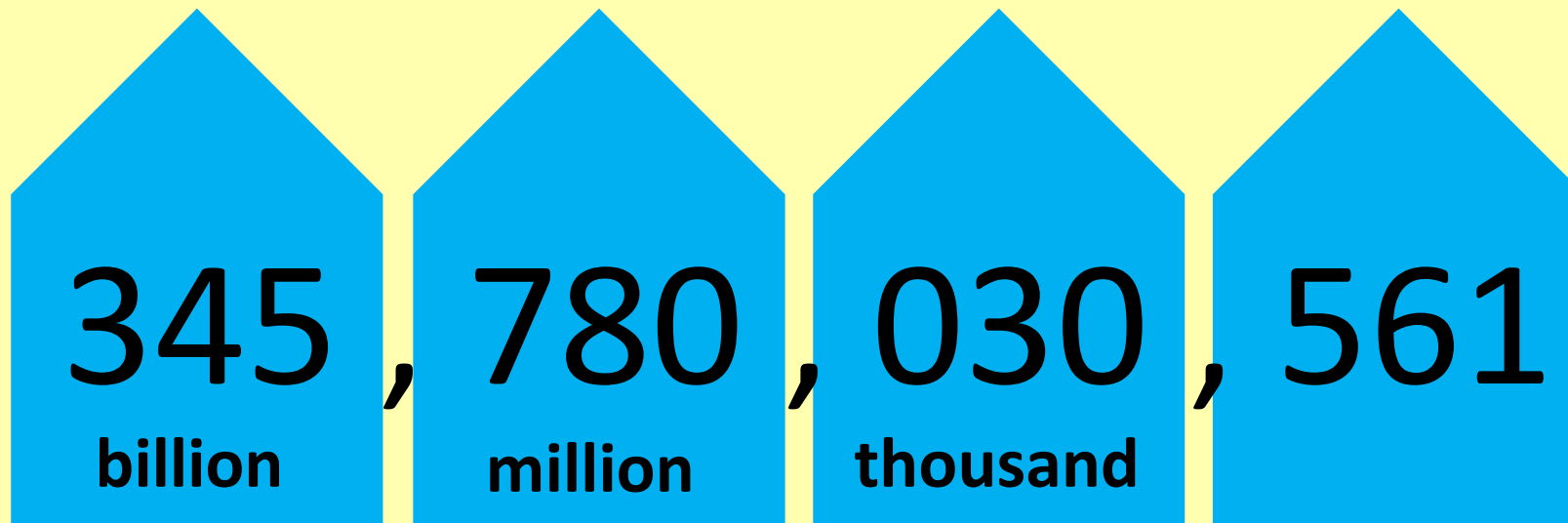
Think of the numbers living in families of three. Each family lives in a house and the house name is their second name – except the last house on the row which has no second name... The first name is the number that lives in the house, so for example 345 would be three hundred and five and 030 is thirty as we don't need to say the leading zero.





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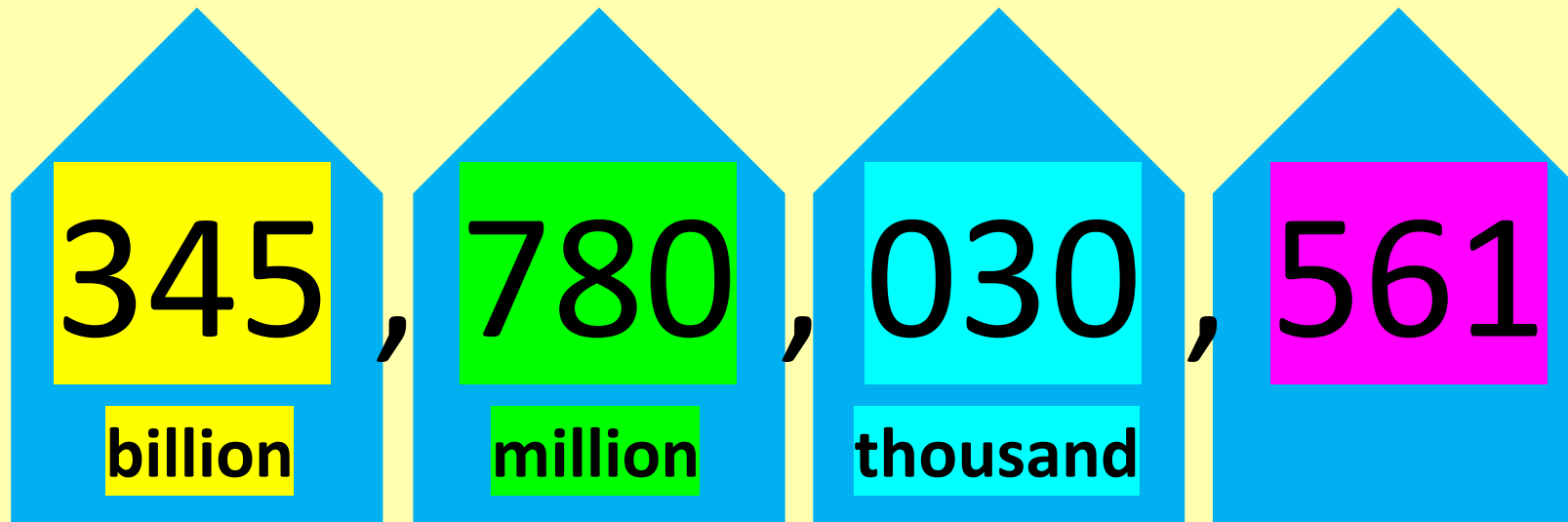
In this HUGE number example we have family 345 living in the billion house, family 780 in the million house, family 30 living in the thousand house (remember no need to say a leading zero) and family 561 living in the house at the end.



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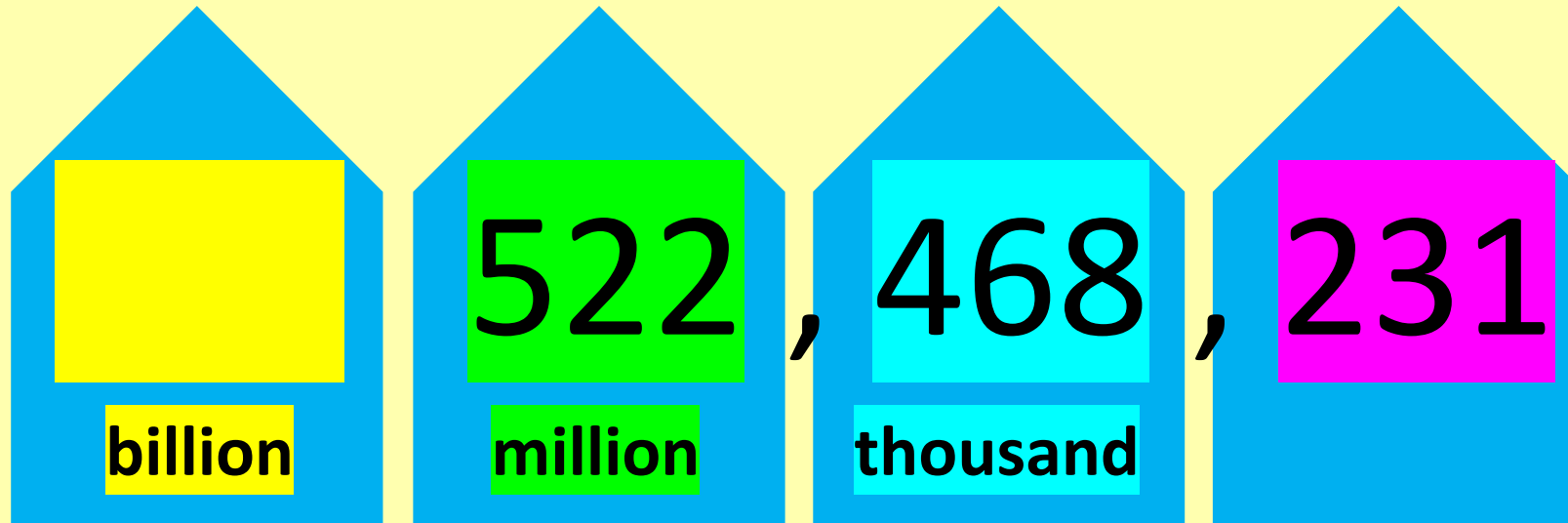
To say the number out loud, we read from left to right, saying both names, so:

Three hundred and forty five billion, seven hundred and eighty million, thirty thousand, five hundred and sixty one. (Can you see why we have no name for the last house!)



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Try this number – there are no billions in this one.

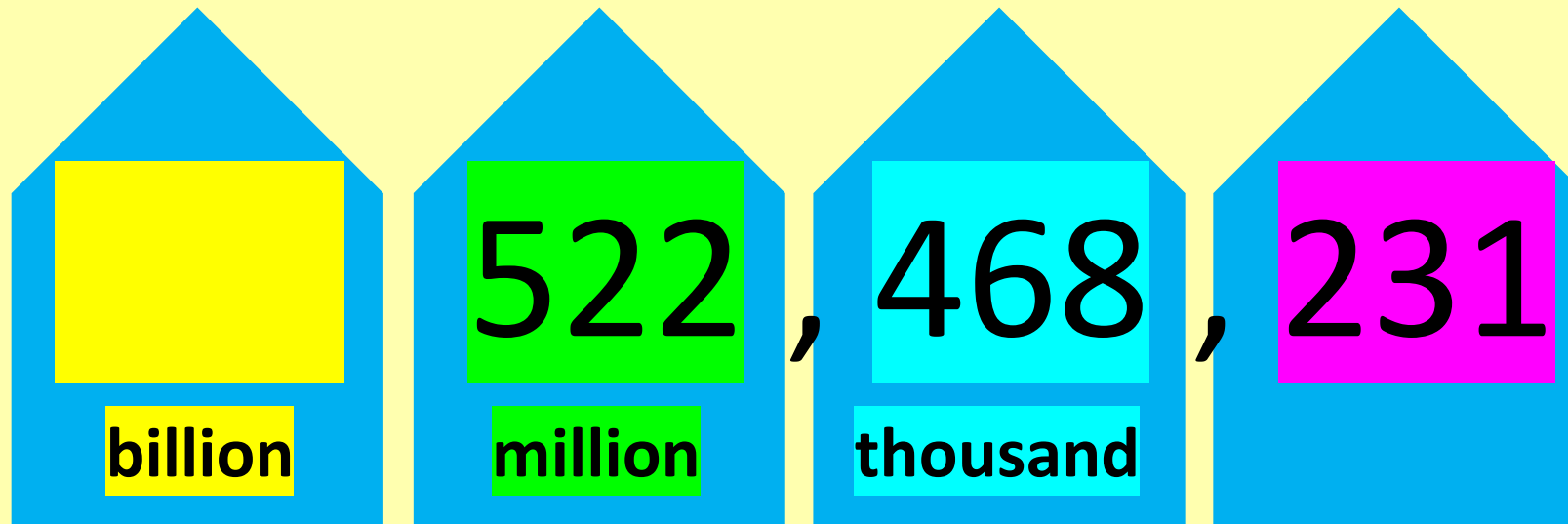




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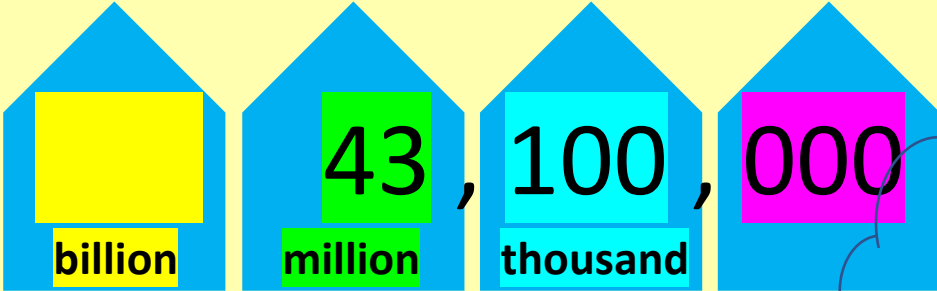
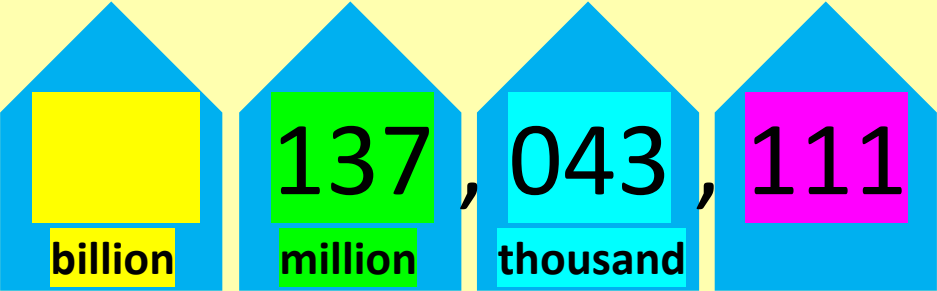
Reading across, saying the names –

five hundred and twenty two million, four hundred and sixty eight thousand, two hundred and thirty one.

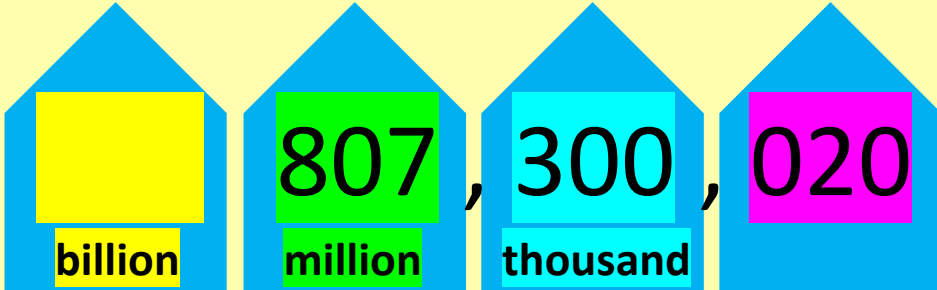
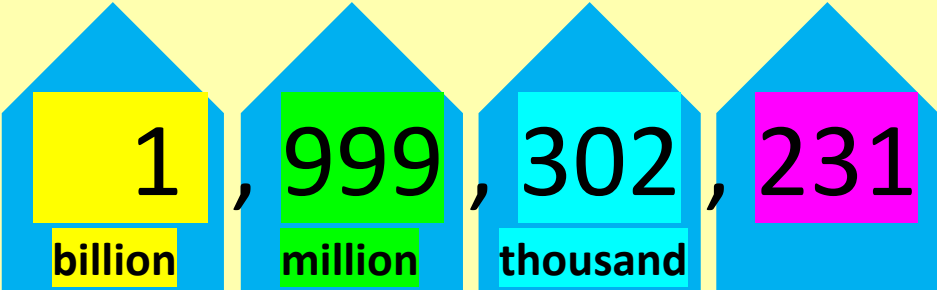
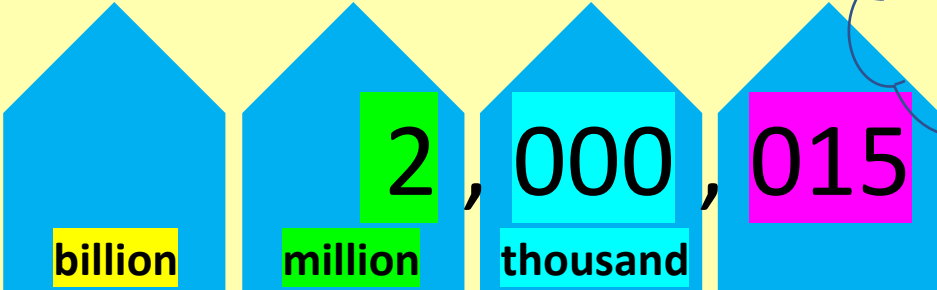
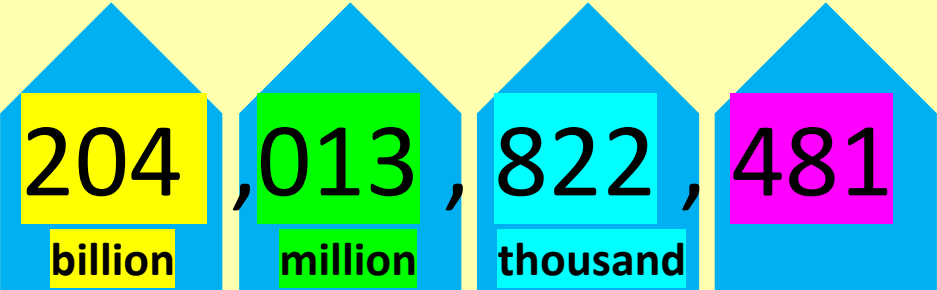


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Try these! Ask someone to check the answers with you



Think about these ones!



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## Answers

- One hundred and thirty seven million, forty three thousand, one hundred and eleven.
- Two hundred and four billion, thirteen million, eight hundred and twenty two thousand, four hundred and eighty one.
- One billion, nine hundred and ninety nine million, three hundred and two thousand, two hundred and thirty one.
- Forty three million, one hundred thousand,
- Two million and fifteen.
- Eight hundred and seven million, three hundred thousand and twenty.

Learning to read numbers to a million and beyond

Try making up some numbers to test yourself. Try making ten BIG numbers for yourself! Get someone to check you are correct! Remember to use zeros to add extra challenge!

Draw the houses to help you to say out the numbers 😊

Extension task: Learning to read decimals

<https://youtu.be/wtrrr15mbvQ>

(Google search - Khan Academy – Place Value with Decimals)