Closest Degree

Read a thermometer scale to the nearest whole degree.

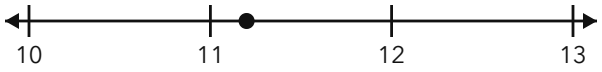
3.GM.2.7 "Use an analog thermometer to determine temperature to the nearest degree in Fahrenheit and Celsius."

NAME _____ DATE _____

LOWER DEGREE

The dot shows the liquid level on a close-up of a thermometer scale. If the dot is closer to the smaller whole-degree mark, read the lower degree.

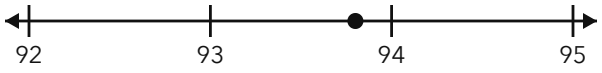
At 11.2°C, read 11°C.



HIGHER DEGREE

If the dot is closer to the larger whole-degree mark, read the higher degree. This works for both °F and °C.

At 93.8°F, read 94°F.



1 SORT

8 items

For each close-up thermometer scale, circle LOWER or HIGHER to show which whole-degree mark is closest to the dot.

1.



Figure 1

LOWER HIGHER

2.

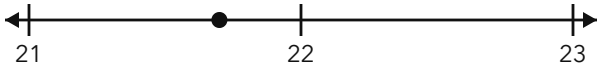


Figure 2

LOWER HIGHER

3.

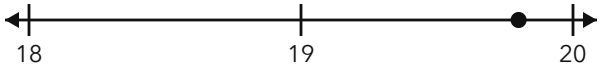


Figure 3

LOWER HIGHER

4.



Figure 4

LOWER HIGHER

5.

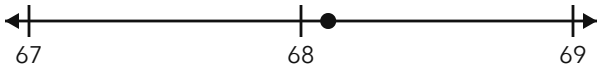


Figure 5

LOWER **HIGHER**

6.

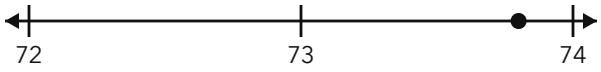


Figure 6

LOWER **HIGHER**

7.

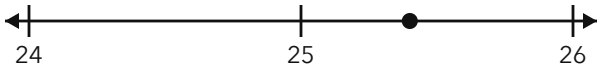


Figure 7

LOWER **HIGHER**

8.

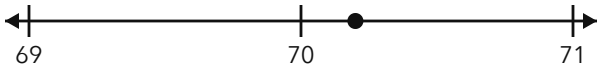


Figure 8

LOWER **HIGHER**

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two figures and explain which whole-degree mark is closer to each dot.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write a new °F reading closer to the lower degree and a new °C reading closer to the higher degree, then round each reading to the nearest degree.

LOWER _____

HIGHER _____

CHALLENGE

A thermometer's liquid level is exactly halfway between 28°C and 29°C. Using the rule that halfway readings round up, what is the temperature to the nearest degree?

ANSWER KEY # Closest Degree

GRADE 3 · 3.GM.2.7

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Figure 1 (numberline)	**LOWER**	16.3 is closer to 16 than to 17.
2	Figure 2 (numberline)	**HIGHER**	21.7 is closer to 22 than to 21.
3	Figure 3 (numberline)	**HIGHER**	19.8 is closer to 20 than to 19.
4	Figure 4 (numberline)	**HIGHER**	64.6 is closer to 65 than to 64.
5	Figure 5 (numberline)	**LOWER**	68.1 is closer to 68 than to 69.
6	Figure 6 (numberline)	**HIGHER**	73.8 is closer to 74 than to 73.
7	Figure 7 (numberline)	**LOWER**	25.4 is closer to 25 than to 26.
8	Figure 8 (numberline)	**LOWER**	70.2 is closer to 70 than to 71.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Pick two figures and explain which whole-degree mark is closer to each dot.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **LOWER**: 60.2°F is closer to 60°F than to 61°F, so it rounds to 60°F.
- **HIGHER**: 6.9°C is closer to 7°C than to 6°C, so it rounds to 7°C.

Challenge: 29°C

Figures 1, 5, 7, and 8 are LOWER. Figures 2, 3, 4, and 6 are HIGHER. For Part 2, accept explanations that correctly name the closer whole-degree mark for each chosen figure.