

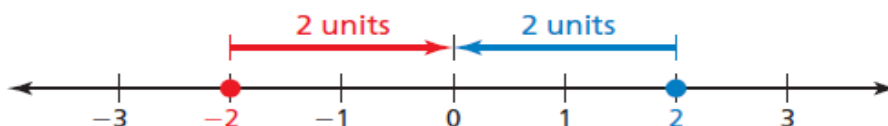
Key Idea

Absolute Value

Words The **absolute value** of a number is the distance between the number and 0 on a number line. The absolute value of a number a is written as $|a|$.

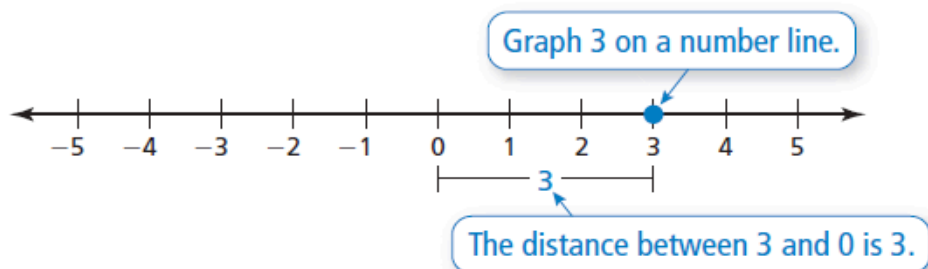
Numbers

$$|-2| = 2 \quad |2| = 2$$



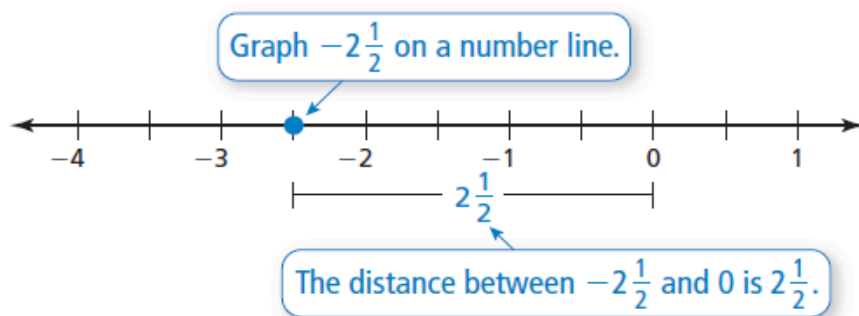
Finding Absolute Value

- a. Find the absolute value of 3.



► So, $|3| = 3$.

- b. Find the absolute value of $-2\frac{1}{2}$.



► So, $|-2\frac{1}{2}| = 2\frac{1}{2}$.

Try It Find the absolute value.

1. $|8|$

2. $|-6|$

3. $|0|$

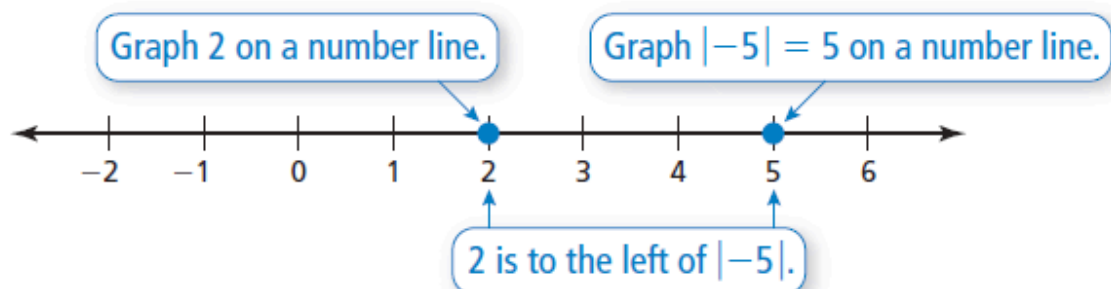
4. $|\frac{1}{4}|$

5. $|-7\frac{1}{3}|$

6. $|-12.9|$

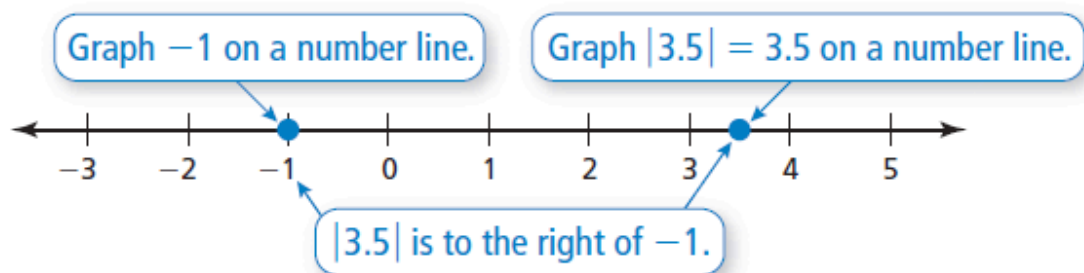
Comparing Values

- a. Compare 2 and $|-5|$.



► So, $2 < |-5|$.

- b. Compare $|3.5|$ and -1 .



► So, $|3.5| > -1$.

Try It Copy and complete the statement using $<$, $>$, or $=$.

7. $|-4|$ -2

8. -5 $|5|$

9. $|9|$ 10

10. 3.9 $|-3.9|$

EXAMPLE 3**Modeling Real Life**

Animal	Elevation (feet)
Shark	-4
Sea lion	5
Seagull	56
Shrimp	-65
Turtle	-22

The table shows the elevations of several animals.

a. Which animal is the deepest? Explain.

b. Is the shark or the sea lion closer to sea level?