Investigation: Rounding to Help Compare Numbers

The numbers of visitors to the 10 most popular national parks in the United States in 2016 are shown in the table.

10 Most Visited National Parks (2016)		Rounded to nearest 10,000	Rounded to nearest 100,000	Rounded to nearest 1,000,000
Park	*Recreational Visits*			
1. Great Smoky Mountains NP	11312786			
2. Grand Canyon NP	5969811			
3. Yosemite NP	5028868			
4. Rocky Mountain NP	4517585			
5. Zion NP	4295127			
6. Yellowstone NP	4257177			
7. Olympic NP	3390221			
8. Acadia NP	3303393			
9. Grand Teton NP	3270076			
10. Glacier NP	2946681			

1. Round the number of visitors to each park to the nearest 10,000, nearest 100,000, and the nearest 1,000,000. Fill in above.
2. Which parks that have an equal number of visitors when…
   a. … rounded to 10,000 ?
   b. … rounded to 100,000 ?
   c. … rounded to 1,000,000 ?

3. Determine how many times the number of visitors to the most visited park is bigger than the number of visitors to the least visited park. Calculate this using the original figures AND using the figures rounded to 1,000,000. Compare the results.

4. How did rounding help you compare visitors in question 3. ?