

In abacus (a) above, spike T has 5 beads and spike O has 2 beads. Therefore, it represents the number 52. Similarly, in abacus (b) spike T has 4 beads and O has one bead. Hence it represents 41. In abacus (c), spike T has 3 beads and O has 2 beads. Therefore, it represents 32.

Note : 1. Please explain to the children that an abacus has spikes to represent numbers even beyond hundreds.
 2. Each spike in an abacus can have **maximum** 9 beads only.
 We know that one more than 9 is 10 and it is represented by 1 bead in spike T. Also, one more than 99 is 100 and it is represented by 1 bead in spike H.

Exercise

Write the number that each abacus represents.

T O
 1 4 = 14

T O
 4 1 = 41

T O
 7 0 = 70

T O
 3 2 = 32

T O
 7 3 = 73

T O
 5 4 = 54

H T O
 4 2 3 = 423

H T O
 5 5 3 = 553

H T O
 2 3 2 = 232