## THE REAL NUMBER SYSTEM



## All buckets empty into REAL NUMBER bin!

Smallest SET of Numbers (least amount of numbers in the set):

COUNTING (NATURAL) NUMBERS: The set of numbers you learn when you learn to count.

Ex: $(1,2,3,4, \ldots)$
Add ONE thing to first SET to get a newly NAMED Set (includes all \#s in first bucket + new):

WHOLE NUMBERS: The set of natural numbers AND zero.

Ex: (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, ...)
Add to the previous SET to get a newly NAMED Set (includes all \#s in second bucket + new):

INTEGERS: The set of whole numbers and their opposites.
Ex: (... $-3,-2,-1,0,1,2,3, \ldots)$

Largest SET of Numbers in this category (includes ALL other \#s from this side ONLY + new):

RATIONAL NUMBERS: The set of numbers that includes terminating decimals, repeating decimals, fractions, and integers. All rational numbers can be written as a fraction.
Ex: $\left(-3,1.75,0 . \overline{3},-\frac{2}{3}, 4.25,0\right)$

# REAL NUMBERS: A rational or irrational number. Every point on a number line is a real number. 

## Special Notes:

A number can only be RATIONAL or IRRATIONAL, but never BOTH.
RATIONAL \#S may be broken down further into other categories, if applicable.
A number, whether RATIONAL or IRRATIONAL, is ALWAYS REAL!

