



## Oak Tree Primary School

### Activities for parents to support the learning of multiplication tables

Knowing times tables facts is vitally important to your child's progression in their mathematics education. Times tables are crucial to help children to progress in all areas of Maths. This includes decimals, percentages, fractions, algebra and division. Many mental maths activities and tests require a quick recall of multiplication and division facts. Children who are secure in their times tables knowledge are able to get to grips with trickier tasks straight away and are far more successful and confident in their approaches.

At the end of Y4, all children will be assessed on their times tables knowledge by completing the statutory Multiplication Tables Check (MTC). A video from the DfE giving more information about the check can be found using the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhAJMJUsAac>

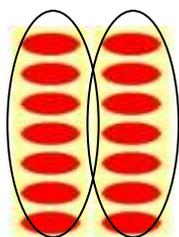
<https://mathsframe.co.uk/en/resources/resource/477/Multiplication-Tables-Check> - this link exactly mirrors the Y4 Multiplication Check (MTC) test that is now statutory at the end of Year 4.

There are many times table games available on line which will help children to recall times tables and division facts. You can also buy times tables CDs for children to sing along to from a number of shops and supermarkets.

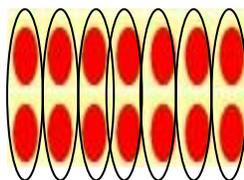
Other words for multiplication are "lots of", "groups of", "product" so you are asking..... How many have you got if you've got 3 bowls of 5 sweets? 3 lots of 5 /  $3 \times 5$ .

#### Learn 1 get 1 free!

Multiplication is perfect for switchers! For example  $7 \times 2$  gives the same result as  $2 \times 7$ . Knowing this means children reduce the number of times table facts they need to learn, by half!



2 lots of 7

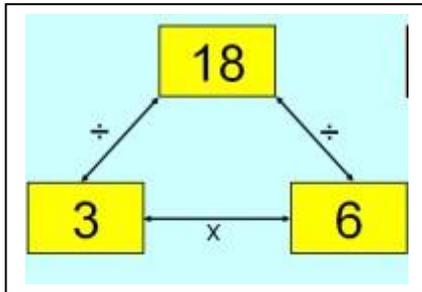


7 lots of 2

### Four facts

Children learn the relationship between multiplication and division.

They should learn that  $6 \times 3 = 18$ ,  $3 \times 6 = 18$ ,  $18 \div 3 = 6$  and  $18 \div 6 = 3$ .



Children can make a set of 3 cards e.g. 18, 6 and 3. Cover one card and ask the children to explain the relationship.

What is 3 multiplied by to give 18?

How many 6s in 18?

What is 18 divided by 3?

*Children then begin to use this to look at related facts.*

*How many 30s in 180? How many 0.6s in 1.8? (As they get older – not in yr 3 don't panic! ☺)*

### Doubles!

It helps to learn the doubles. If children are able to double they don't just learn the two times tables. They can quickly remind themselves of other facts.

For  $8 \times 6$  - double six ( $2 \times 6 = 12$ ), double again ( $4 \times 6 = 24$ ), double again ( $8 \times 6 = 48$ )

### 10x

Children need to be confident when multiplying by 10 and later 100. The short cut of adding 0 does not work for multiplying decimal numbers so it is best not to teach this.

Multiplying by 10 makes the number ten times bigger. Learn the rule that to multiply by 10 we move the digits one place to the left and to divide by 10 we move the digits one place to the right.

### Singing, chanting:

These "old-fashioned" strategies still help. Say the multiples as you go up the stairs - eg: 3, 6, 9, 12.... Time how quickly they can do it. Can they run up the stairs? Can they count backwards when they come back down?

Writing them: For the arty children, make a tables poster for their bedroom wall.

Speed writing: How quickly can you write all the facts in the xtable of choice? Can you beat your time? Race your parents / older siblings!

### Rhymes and patterns:

Create rhymes to help children remember facts.

$8 \times 8 = 64$  (I ate and I ate and was sick on the floor,  $8 \times 8$  is 64)



$8 \times 7 = 56$  ( $56 = 7 \times 8$ ) (the numbers in this times table fact are in order 5, 6, 7, 8!)

**Fizz Buzz:** (if you've got older siblings to join in - this works well)

Count around in a group with each person taking it in turns to say the next number. Count again, but instead of saying the number the child has to say fizz instead of the multiples of 5. For example 1, 2, 3, 4 fizz, 6, 7, 8, 9 fizz. Repeat this time saying buzz for multiples of 3. A challenge is to say fizz for the multiples of 3 and buzz for the multiples of 5. This game can be adapted for other multiples. This game helps children rehearse the pattern of multiples. What do you say instead of 15?

**Bingo:**

**Version 1** Children write down 6 to 8 numbers from 1 to 36. Roll a dice twice to make a multiplication calculation. Players cross out the answer if it is one of their numbers. This game can be played with dice, playing cards, digit cards or another person saying the multiplication calculation. Which numbers are good to choose? Which numbers rarely come up?

**Version 2** Choose answers from times tables and write them down. Roll two dice and multiply the two numbers. Cross off the answer if you have it. The winner is the first to cross off all their numbers.

**Dominoes**

Place dominoes face down on the table. Player one takes a domino. Multiply the two numbers together and say the answer. If they are correct they can keep the domino. Continue the game with each player doing the same. The winner is whoever has the most dominoes at the end. This game can be played with a set of dominoes, two playing cards or you could make your own set focusing on a specific times table.

## Table Square

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Help children to see the patterns and so cut down on the number of facts to memorise. Highlight the facts you already know on the square and then start work on selected table facts. Children can be given times table squares like this one to complete with the missing table facts they are working on.

Children can be given a blank square with the numbers arranged in a random order and complete a speed test!

30									
	42								
		?							
			63						

X	5	6	9	2	8	11	4	3	7
2									
3									
4									
11									
8									
2									
9									
6									
5									

X	5	6	4	2
2				
3				
4				
9				

## Pairs:

Make a sets of 0-12 number cards. Turn them all face down - take it in turns to randomly turn one over and multiply by your chosen table ( eg x3) if its right you keep it - if not it goes back face down. Play on their own - how quickly can they work them all out?

## Chanting

When beginning to learn a times table this is key. Repeatedly reading a times table out aloud will help your child become familiar with the multiples for that times table. Try and keep a rhythm, changing vocabulary regularly (two times three is six, two threes are six, two lots of three are six etc.) Clapping or marching may help with keeping the rhythm going.

## Flash Cards

Make a set of cards for the times table being learnt by putting a question on one side of the card ( $6 \times 5 =$ ) and the answer on the reverse (30). Go through the cards reading the

question and then turning over to see the answer. Try and say the answer before you turn over. When familiar with the multiplication table, the cards can then be shuffled and used in a random order.

### **Testing and Timing**

Make this fun. When your child has become more confident at learning a particular times table, ask them questions on it and see how many they can get correct in a particular time. Alternatively write some questions out of order and get them to time how long it takes to complete the questions. Can they beat their time and score?

### **Using a multiplication Square**

A multiplication square is particularly useful for establishing the link between multiplication and division facts but can also be used instead of a times table list. When children are more confident with their times table knowledge, a blank multiplication square can be filled in. Time your child to complete their square, or see how many multiples they can complete in a set time. Can they beat their score and time?

### **Times Tables Games**

Bingo is a great way of learning times tables as a family. Write 6 multiples from a particular times table down in a grid and the caller reads out questions from the same multiplication table.

Rolling dice and multiplying the numbers together is a good way to compete with each other to get the correct answer first. Two dice can be rolled at once to create all questions up to  $12 \times 12$ . A similar game can be created with playing cards where two cards are chosen and their values multiplied together. The Jack, Queen and King need to be 11, 12 and 0.

To help with division, each player chooses and writes down five of the following numbers: 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 15, 20, 30, 40 and 50. Take it in turns to roll a dice and if the number you roll is a factor of one of your numbers, cross it out. E.g. if a 4 is rolled it goes into 8 so cross out 8. If 1 is rolled, you miss a go; if 6 is rolled you get an extra turn. The winner crosses all of their numbers out first.

There are numerous other websites that have fun games on that are great for learning and practising tables, just do a search! Also many different apps you can download onto iPhones and iPads too!

[www.mathszone.co.uk](http://www.mathszone.co.uk)

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/maths/times-tables-tips/>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/times-tables>

<https://komodomath.com/blog/how-to-help-your-child-with-times-tables>

<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/multiplication-and-division> - 'hit the button' can be found here

<https://www.multiplication.com/games/all-games>

[https://www.mathplayground.com/ASB\\_Index.html](https://www.mathplayground.com/ASB_Index.html)

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=mr+demaio+times+tables](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=mr+demaio+times+tables)

<https://urbrainy.com/mtc>

### **Useful apps**

Math Ninja

Edplus

Multiplication genius

Marble Math Multiplication

Quick strike

Times Tables and Friends

Squeebles Times Tables 2

10 minutes a day times tables

Happy tables learning!