



How can I support my child at home with maths?

Key things you could support your child(ren) with:

- Play games to develop number confidence and understanding!
- Number bonds (to 10/20/100 on onwards!)
- Times table practice
- Notice and discuss patterns, shapes, maths in everyday life

How?

- Board games – such as snakes and ladders, Guess Who, Beetle Drive, Junior Monopoly.
- Any board games which involve counting, number and thinking!
- Puzzles, including jigsaws.

Resources you could use:

- Dice
- Playing cards
- Dominoes



Find opportunities to discuss and use everyday 'real' maths:

- Out shopping – making totals, finding change, % discounts. Letting them pay and work out change.
- Counting up and down the stairs.
- Number rhymes.
- Setting the table – cutlery, mats etc.
- Pair socks when getting in washing.
- Counting cars on the way to school.
- Spotting different numbers in the environment – door numbers, car number plates.
- Time – plan days out, what time to leave, how much money to take.
- Cooking – weighing ingredients, reading scales, adapting recipes.
- Keeping score in games.



Some advice:

Regular practice – little and often.

- Give lots of praise and encouragement
- Don't do lots of practice in one session. Little and often is much more beneficial.
- Never say that *you* were never any good at maths or give any indication that it is ok to 'give up on maths'.

Times tables – practise little and often.

- Times tables practice is one of the most valuable ways you can support your child(ren) at home. National Curriculum expectations are that children know all their times tables up to 12x12 by the end of Year 4.
- Help them to make links and see the patterns. There are lots of links. Start with x10 , x2 and x5. Move onto using these facts to help them learn the others. For example, x4 is double x2.

Online Games

Websites and apps provide engaging ways for children to practice rapid recall of the times table facts. Little and often is the most effective way. Some useful websites are:

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>

Music and songs can help children to learn facts in a catchy way

You Tube videos with times tables songs:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dzVyBQ5uTbo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9os1VUUUp5io> – Cheerleader song 6 times table (they have them for lots of the times tables – edited versions of popular pop songs with times tables added to them)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1OPTfVcoCO4> -

Some methods for learning times tables:

- Stick to one times table at a time to minimise confusion
- Start with chanting and writing them out slowly in order
- Then move on to completing the answers quickly in order - on paper or verbally with your child
- Finally, move on to completing the answers in any order
- Keep reminding your child that 3×4 is the same as 4×3 - this effectively halves the number of tables facts
- Each times table has a square number 3×3 , 7×7 etc (see the coloured numbers in the tables grid above). These are special "hand or foot holds" that can act as memory hooks - emphasize them!
- Talk about the numbers are you encounter them " $5 \times 8 = 40$ that's mummy's age" , " $3 \times 6 = 18$ that's our house number" . . . *this makes more memory hooks*

Taken from <https://komodomath.com/blog/a-parents-guide-to-learning-times-tables>

Most importantly, have fun
with it!

