Times Tables Tips

Times tables are a fundamental numeracy skill that enable children to develop their mathematical skills and solve problems quicker and more easily. We therefore ask, for times tables to be learnt at home, as well as in class. Your child's class teacher will be able to advise which times tables to focus on.

Super Fingers!

This is a game for two players.

The game is basically a version of rock, paper, scissors but with numbers. Two players count to 3 and then make a number using their fingers.

Both players then have to multiply both numbers together and the quickest wins.

Multiplication Snap!

You will need a deck of cards for this game.

1. Flip over the cards as though you are playing snap.
2. The first to say the fact based on the cards turned over (2 and 3 say 6) gets the card.
3. The person to get all of the cards wins.

Rhyme Time!

Silly rhymes can help children learn tricky tables, e.g.,

$8 \times 8 = 64$ 'He ate and ate and was sick on the floor, eight times eight is 64.'

$3 \times 3 = 9$ 'Swing from tree to tree on a vine, three times three is nine.'

$7 \times 7 = 49$ 'Seven times seven is like a rhyme, it all adds up to 49.'

$4 \times 4 = 16$ 'A 4 by 4 is a mean machine. I'm going to get one when I am 16.'

Speed Tables!

Time challenges can be a really good way of helping times tables become automatic. Some ideas we use in school are;

-measuring the time it takes to write the tables, then trying to beat the time.

-seeing how many times you can write that table in 1 minute.

-race/challenge against other people

Jump on the answer

Put the multiples of the times table you are learning around the house/garden on the floor. Jump on the answer to the times table.

Scavenger Hunt

Put the multiples of the times table you are learning around the house. Ask one of the times tables and then go and find the answer.

Chanting

Repeatedly reading a times table aloud will help your child to become more familiar with it. Try and keep to a rhythm or saying it in a funny voice. Clapping or marching may help as well.

Times Tables Tips

Websites

-Hit the Button

-Coconut Multiples

-Maths Fishing

-Times Tables Grid

-Times Tables Shooting

-Times Tables Memory

-Spuq Balloons

-Times Tables Rally

-Mr.DeMaio

Tricky Sixes

Six times tables can be tricky to learn. One helpful trick is that in the 6 times tables, when you multiply an even number by 6, they both end in the same digit.

2 x 6 = 12

4 x 6 = 24

6 x 6 = 36

8 x 6 = 48

Flash Cards

Make a set of cards for the times table you are learning by putting a question on one side and the answer on the reverse. Go through the cards by reading the question then trying to say the answer before you turn it over. Start off by doing it in order and then shuffling them to a random order.

Bingo!

This game will need 2 players.

Make a grid of six squares on a piece of paper and ask your child to write a number in each square from their target tables. Give them a question and if they have the answer they mark the answer off. First one to mark off all their numbers is the winner!

Hit the answer

Put the multiples of the times table you are learning on a target in your garden or write them in chalk on your fence/patio. Ask a times table question then throw a ball at the correct answer.

One Less = Nine

This is a strategy for learning the 9 x tables. The key to it is that for any answer in the nine times tables, both digits add up to 9. Try it and see!

1. Subtract 1 from the number you are multiplying by. E.g. 7 x 9 – one less than 7 is 6.
2. This number becomes the first number in the answer, 7 x 9 = 6_
3. The two numbers in the answer add up to 9 so the second number must be 3, 7 x 9 = 63

9 x table on your fingers

1. Hold your hands in front of you with your fingers spread out.
2. For 9 x 4 bend your 4th finger down (like the picture).
3. You have 3 fingers in front of the bent finger and 6 after the bent finger. Thus the answer must be 36!
4. The technique works for the 9 times tables up to 10.