

It is important that children are fluent with their times tables so they can recall table facts quickly. Not all children progress at the same rate so please check with your child's class teacher if there are specific tables your child should be practising or if you need any advice. A rough guide would be:

P3 - confident in the 2, 5 and 10 times tables

P4 - as above, as well as the 3 and 4 times tables

P5 - as above, as well as the 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables

P6/7 - continue to improve speed of recall in all tables, including the 11 and 12

Children could be working on these tables at any time - this is just a rough guide.

Our times tables top tips will provide some useful advice and great ideas to help you support your child in learning their times tables.

1. Practise tables as a time-filler

When you're sitting at traffic lights or waiting in the doctor's surgery it is the perfect opportunity for a bit of times table practice! It's always better (for both your child and you) to just spend a few minutes reciting or testing times tables rather than going into overdrive and spending too long practising them.

2. Help them with the ones they find tricky

There are usually one or two multiplication facts in each times table that are more difficult. When you notice that your child is stumbling over the same fact each time, try to give them extra practice. You could even get your child to write the fact out in a fun way on a piece of card and then stick it somewhere prominent (like on the fridge) so that they have an extra reminder!

3. Use a number grid

Printing off a simple [10 x 10 number grid](#) can be a great way to demonstrate how times tables relate to number sequences. You can get your child to colour in multiples of different numbers on different number squares so that they can clearly see the number patterns.

4. Make it real

The danger with too much rote learning of times tables is that children can fail to see the use of times tables in real life. Try to take opportunities to get your child to use multiplication in problem solving, for example working out quantities for scaling up a recipe, or calculating the price of more than one item of shopping.

5. Create a challenge

Make it fun by turning times table practice into a competition or challenge for your child, by timing them and keeping a record of their scores. You could even join in yourself and set a challenge to learn a more difficult times table, such as the 13 times table and get your child to test you at the end of the week in exchange for testing them...