times tables

KS2

top tips

why are times tables important?

You would be amazed at how much of our maths at school and in real life is based on tables. It is important that your child knows all of their times tables (up to 12x12) by the end of Year Four.

use a multiplication square

To use a multiplication square, choose a number from the first column and a number from the first row. Follow the row and column until they meet in the middle, for example, 6 x 7 = 42

Try blanking out some of the numbers. Does your child know what numbers are missing? Look for patterns! How many calculations have the same answer?

make it fun!

- Think of catchy rhymes to help your child remember a tricky table. Can you make some up?
- I skate and I skate on a slippery floor 8 x 8 = 64

- Look for patterns or clever tricks. For example, you can rearrange 7 x 8 = 56 to 56 = 7 x 8 The numbers are now in order - 5, 6, 7 and 8!

- If your child has learnt their four times tables, they can double these to learn the eight times tables.

- Say tricky tables in silly voices or even try singing them. Even young children learn song lyrics very quickly and easily!

- See if you can remember your times tables! Let your child test you! Remember, practice makes perfect!

useful tips to help your children to learn their tables at home

- When your child has begun to learn a table, practise the table for five minutes each day with them.

- It is important to say the whole table, not just the answers, again and again and again and again!

- Break down each table into manageable chunks. For example, ask them 1 x 6, 2 x 6 and 5 x 6 until they know the answers. Then add the next one.

- Work on pairs of tables, for example if your child is learning the two times table they can use their doubling facts to calculate the four times tables.

- Test your child by firing questions at them, out of order reminding them that they can use facts that they are confident with to work out trickier ones. For example if they know 4x6=24 just double to find 8x6.

- Keep checking that they still know the facts they have learnt and revisit previously learnt facts.

- Encourage your child to write out the table they are learning again and again, perhaps as a spider diagram grouping the facts that they are confident with and those which they are less confident with. Display tables around different parts of the house so that your child sees them everywhere (even in the bathroom!)

- Use a range of vocabulary - "times", "multiply", "lots of", "sets of"…..

Keep scrolling to see helpful links below!
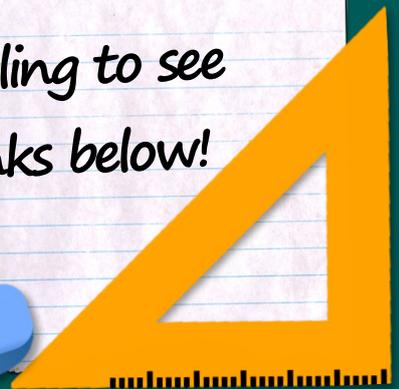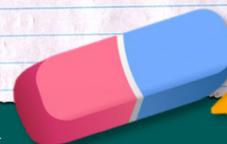
useful links
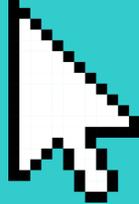
A wide range of interactive games collected from different websites. Fantastic!

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

This website is used as a teaching tool to help your child to understand multiplication as repeated addition.

http://www.taw.org.uk/lic/itp/mult_facts.html

BBC Mega-Maths is an excellent site. You can play the games and read the top tips.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolradio/maths/megamaths.shtml

This site uses different maths words to test the times tables. These are words we like to use in school too.

http://www.times-tables.com/

BBC skillswise is a variety of games to make and play

http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/maths

Games and activites to test yourself! When you look at the multiplication square, there are not actually that many times tables to learn.

http://www.gamequarium.com/multiplication.html