

Top Tips for learning times tables



There are several different ways to learn times tables – different children will learn in different ways and not all methods will work for all children. Here are a few tips to help you get started!

Top Tip	More Info
Little & Often	Children learn best from regularly practising their tables across a period of time. Rather than setting aside one long session per week, children would benefit from a few minutes (3-5) per day. This could be to fit busy schedules, for example on the journey to or from school, or quickly after first getting home from school.
Fun	Children will learn best when they are enjoying the task. There are lots of fun ways to learn tables – this could include turning it into a competition between you and your child, playing games, watching videos, singing songs, using apps to help.
Focused	Quite often children know a lot more facts than they realise and can spend time practising tables that they already know quite well, rather than learning new facts. It's important that children experience success, but try to make sure you focus on questions/tables that they still need to learn. These would be questions that they either answer incorrectly or take much longer to answer than others – perhaps using their fingers or you can hear them needing to count up in order to reach an answer. Ideally, we want children to be able to recall the facts almost instantly (within 5 seconds). Your child's teacher will be able to give you an idea of which tables your child is less quick on based on TT Rock Stars.
Songs	There are lots of fun songs available which can help the children to remember the tables. The Supermovers videos are a great place to start with this: https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/supermovers/ks2-maths-collection/z7frpg8
Games	There are a range of games available to help practice and learn tables. You can find a selection of these on our website.
Apps	TT Rock Stars helps children to practice and learn their tables. Garage focuses on the tables that your child's teacher has chosen for them to learn. Studio helps children to focus on all tables. Jamming also enables you to learn tables – you can select which tables to focus on.
Cards	Using blank playing cards set up for a particular times table can help children to learn their tables quickly and help you to target facts they find trickier. Following the guidance for how to use Homefield Cards on our website.
Rhymes	Sometimes a rhyme can help children to remember tricky facts – we will share a sheet of rhymes with parents at parents' evening.