

# Progression in Multiplication Tables

## How multiplication tables are taught

Multiplication tables practice takes place every day in a very structured way from Year 3 through Year 5, continuing into Year 6 for the small number of pupils who require additional practice. This involves working through a series of booklets, completing daily tests.

For each new multiplication table, the teacher must do the following:

- Write out the full table for the class
- Pupils to explain which facts they already know from previous tables
- Establish which facts are new facts
- Teachers read each fact aloud, with all pupils then repeating this; full sentences must always be used, e.g. 'four threes are twelve' or 'nine sixes are fifty-four'

All children complete the same daily tests. The relevant times table is displayed clearly to all pupils when they are taking the test. Pupils have 2 minutes to complete as many questions as they can in this time limit. They can copy answers from the display if required, helping them commit facts to memory, then will score more quickly once they can recall the facts, rather than finding them.

Pupils mark their own booklets. The teacher displays the answers on the board, then reads out the full multiplication fact for each question. Pupils repeat each fact themselves. This is where most of the learning takes place.

When reading the answer, the teacher (and pupils after them) always starts with the largest number first, so that children learn a single speech pattern for every equivalent fact, e.g.  $2 \times 8 = 16$  is read as 'eight twos are sixteen'. Division questions are also read as a multiplication fact, but with the teacher missing the missing number initially, then reading again with the full fact, e.g.  $18 \div \_ = 6$  is read as '{blank} sixes are eighteen, three sixes are eighteen'.

Each booklet is for a different times table and there are 22 tests in each booklet. The tests cover the following:

- 1-4 The first half of the new multiplication table
- 5-8 The second half of the new multiplication table
- 9-12 The whole multiplication table
- 13-22 The table mixed with previous multiplication tables

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Book A	Book B	Book C	Book D	Book E	Book F	Book G	Book H	Book I	Book J	Book K
10x	5x	2x	4x	8x	3x	6x	9x	7x	11x	12x

## Progression by year group

Year group	2x	3x	4x	5x	6x	7x	8x	9x	10x	11x	12x
Year 3											
Year 4											
Year 5											
Year 6	Teaching of times tables in Year 6 is dependent on the needs of the cohort										