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Multiplication & Division

We all have memories of how we learnt our times tables as a child and the need for children to become fluent in this area of mathematics is still very important to their learning – not only in their primary education but also throughout their life as an adult.

Developing quick recall in this area is key to unlocking problem solving skills and understanding multiplication and division is important for gaining number knowledge. These skills are some of the most important to develop at home and are essential to help your child prepare for their end of Key Stage 2 assessments and the newly introduced multiplication assessment in Year 4.

Maths glossary

Use these quick links or explore our jargon buster for simple definitions and examples of mathematical terms.

- **Area/grid method** is a way of visualising multiplication, as a first step towards formal written calculations, where numbers are set out in a grid.
- **Arrays** are shapes or objects arranged in a rectangle. For example, egg boxes and muffin trays are arrays.
- **Common factors** are numbers that can be divided into two different numbers. For example, the common factors of 12 and 18 are 1, 2, 3, and 6 because they all divide into both 12 and 18.
- **Factors** are whole numbers that will divide exactly into another number. For example 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 12 are all factors of 12.
- **Inverse operations** means that we can use one operation to ‘undo’ the other. For example, multiplication is the inverse of division.

[Search our education glossary >](#)

Maths
Number & place value
Addition & subtraction
Multiplication & division
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Learning to tell the time
Numicon parent guide
MyMaths parent guide
Maths activity books

How to help your child at home

You don’t need to be an expert to support your child with maths! Here are four simple but effective ways to help your child develop their understanding of multiplication and division:

1. Explore practically

Use real objects to develop early understanding of multiplication and division. For example, use socks, gloves or ice-cube trays to count in twos, fives, or tens. Use egg boxes or muffin trays to explore arrays. Practise division by sharing beads between toys or arranging blocks into groups.

2. Practise times tables

Sing, chant or play games to help your child to memorise times tables. Give points for each fact they know. Use real-life opportunities to practise. For example, when you’re in the supermarket ask your child: ‘How many packets will we have if we buy 3 multipacks with 6 packets in each?’

3. Explain different methods

Ask your child to explain each stage of a multiplication or division and why they chose that method. They might use doubling or halving, apply times tables facts, use pictures to represent their calculations, or write their methods. Encourage them to estimate first and then check with a different strategy.

4. Go digital and beat the clock!

As well as the many resources available here at Oxford Owl, there are a wide range of online activities and fun games to help develop speedy recall of multiplication and division facts. The sites that are most popular are those that encourage children to challenge themselves against the clock or challenge their friends, classmates and even teachers. Speed is the key to success.

Want more?

To help your child’s learning further, you may want to watch some of the videos included within our dedicated [maths library](#). If you’re looking for more ideas to support learning at home, head over to our [maths blog](#) to explore articles full of top tips and fun activities.

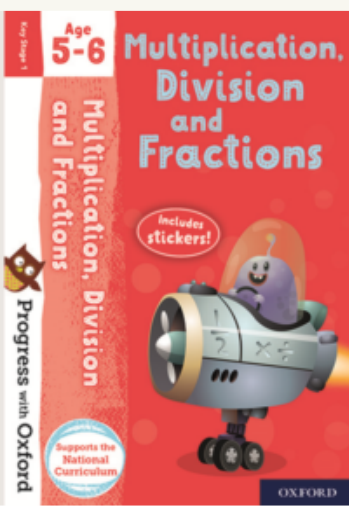
What your child will learn at school

For more information about your child’s learning in a particular year group, use this handy drop down menu:

Multiplication & division in Year 1 (age 5–6)	+
Multiplication & division in Year 2 (age 6–7)	+
Multiplication & division in Year 3 (age 7–8)	+
Multiplication & division in Year 4 (age 8–9)	+
Multiplication & division in Year 5 (age 9–10)	+
Calculation in Year 6 (age 10–11)	+

Multiplication & division books

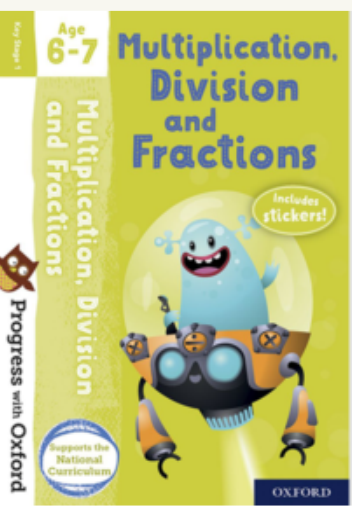
[More multiplication & division books](#)



Multiplication, Division and Fractions Age 5–6

This fun activity book will encourage your child to progress with number skills, such as multiplication, division and fractions. They will quickly learn to recognise and find a half and a quarter of an object or amount. They will also learn to solve problems using multiplication and division skills.

[View product](#)



Multiplication, Division and Fractions Age 6–7

This activity book will encourage your child to progress with number skills, such as multiplication, division and fractions, while having fun. The books in our Progress with Oxford series are focused on the skills your child will need at each stage of the school curriculum. Includes stickers and a progress chart.

[View product](#)



Multiplication, Division and Fractions Age 7–8

This activity book will encourage your child to progress with number skills, such as multiplication, division and fractions, while having fun. Colourful stickers and a progress chart help make learning rewarding and exciting.

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Times Tables Flashcards

These Bond Times Tables Flashcards provide rapid recall practice in all the times tables from 1 to 12, helping children to meet the curriculum expectations for Key Stage 2 maths and the Year 4 multiplication tables check. With questions on one side and the sum on the reverse, the flashcards can be used independently or with a parent, tutor or another child to quickly test knowledge.

[View product](#)