

Times Tables Tricks

When it comes to primary school mathematics, a common parental concern is that their child does not know their times tables.

Sound knowledge of times tables provides of a foundation for many areas of mathematics, including division, measurement, fractions and algebra.

So here are a few handy hints to help learn times tables.

It is important to understand that all multiplication are turnarounds (i.e. 2×3 equals 3×2); this will halve the amount of number facts to be remembered.

Other tricks to teach students include:

- 0 wipes out the other number - therefore anything multiplied by 0 will be 0.
- 1 does not change the number - anything multiplied by 1 will remain itself.
- 2 times simply requires doubling the number.
- $4 = 2 \times 2$, therefore to multiply by 4, double the number and double it again.
- Learning to multiply by 5 can sometimes be helped by knowing the minutes on an analogue clock.
- $6 = 3 \times 2$, so to multiply by 6, first multiply by 3, then by 2.
- $9 \times$ can be learned using your fingers. A link to how to do this is on the Education Rules!!! Maryborough Facebook page.
- To multiply by 10, add a zero to the number.

Musical tunes and apps can be effective in helping to learn times tables. Charts are also helpful, particularly if they concentrate on one series of times tables at a time.

Anyone who likes the Education Rules!!! Maryborough Facebook page before 20 April, will go into the draw for a set of times tables charts.

