

The John Moore Primary School



Times Tables

Challenge

Why Times Tables?

Why learn times tables?

Knowing the Times Tables inside out is essential for moving on easily to most other things in mathematics including division, fractions, decimals, percentages and algebra.

Many people will remember the problems set at school about men digging holes, baths filling with the plug out, trains travelling toward each other etc. These seemed not to have any relevance to life but in fact we use times tables facts almost every day in many different ways:

- To calculate the cost of a number of items e.g. 1 bar of chocolate costs 75p, how much will 10 bars cost?
- To work out the number of calories in the 10 bars of chocolate we have just eaten if 1 bar contains 250 calories.
- To find out how many miles we will have to run to burn up all the calories if running one mile burns up only 100 calories.

Children who know their times tables facts will be able to answer questions more quickly and be able to focus on using other maths strategies in more complex problems rather than being slowed down by the multiplication. Knowing times tables can also increase confidence levels as this part of the question becomes easy.

The John Moore Primary School 'Times Tables Challenges'

We are introducing a new school 'Times Tables Challenge' award system to encourage the children to learn their times tables.

The challenge focuses on rewarding children when they are proficient in a number of times tables. Each level will be awarded once a set of verbal questions can be answered instantly. Pauses of longer than a couple of seconds will mean that instant recall isn't established and more practice is necessary.

Award assessments will be done when the teacher feels the child is ready **or children ask to be assessed**. The system is not designed to be a 'weekly tables test' but an incentive to encourage children to learn the tables. Children do not have to be tested on the times tables in order, but can ask to be tested on the times table they choose, in any order.

Children can ask their teacher to be tested. The teacher will then arrange a suitable time to carry out the test. Pupils will be asked to answer a set of questions and will be expected to answer instantly to be awarded each level.

Rewards

Certificates and stickers will be awarded at each level. These will be given out in our Success Assembly on a Friday. When a pupil reaches the 'Champion of Champions' level they will be awarded a certificate, a badge and a prize.

Times Tables Challenges

Bronze level Challenges – the multiples challenges

- I can count in multiples of 2 (up to at least 24)
- I can count in multiples of 3 (up to at least 36)
- I can count in multiples of 4 (up to at least 48)
- I can count in multiples of 5 (up to at least 60)
- I can count in multiples of 6 (up to at least 72)
- I can count in multiples of 7 (up to at least 84)
- I can count in multiples of 8 (up to at least 96)
- I can count in multiples of 9 (up to at least 108)
- I can count in multiples of 10 (up to at least 120)
- I can count in multiples of 11 (up to at least 132)
- I can count in multiples of 12 (up to at least 144)

Silver Level challenges

I can recite the table fully (eg 1 times three is three, two times three is six to twelve times)

Gold Level Challenges

I can answer random multiplication questions on this table, that use a range of multiplication vocabulary (eg What is four times three? What is seven multiplied by three? What is the product of four and two?...

Platinum Level Challenges

I can answer random multiplication and division questions on this table. (eg How many threes in twelve? How many groups of three are there in twenty seven? What is thirty six divided by six?..)

Champion of Champions

All times tables

I can answer random multiplication and division questions on all my tables.

Record Card

Each child will receive a record card which should be kept in their book bag. These will be up-dated by the teacher when a level has been met.

