

Learning the Times Tables (5 facts a week)

Too often we ‘memorize’ the times facts but they just get in our short-term memory and are soon forgotten. Study them in a way that gets them in your long-term memory.

- ❖ You have *learned* a times fact when you can give the answer consistently within 3 seconds.
- ❖ Work on the times facts for 10 minutes a night until they are all mastered – no longer . Start tonight!

WHERE TO START:

Make a list of the facts you can’t answer within 3 seconds.

- ❖ Start at the 5’s, then 2’s, then 4’s, then 9’s (your child can show you an easy trick for the 9’s), then 3’s, then 6’s, 7’s, 8’s
- ❖ Say the times fact out loud, two ways (with a rhythm).
For $2 \times 3 = 6$, say: “**2 times 3 is 6**” or “**Two threes are six**” Repeat, over and over.
- ❖ **Say it, picture it, write it, draw it in an array.**
- ❖ **Learn more tricks:** <http://www.mathsisfun.com/tables.html>

Day 1: Pick one times fact to learn.

Day 2: Review the fact from the previous night and learn one more.

Day 3: Review the two facts from the previous two nights and learn one more.

Day 4: Review the three facts from the previous three nights and learn one more.

Day 6: Review the four facts learned that week and learn one more.

Week Two:

Repeat the previous week’s facts and add one more (each night) until they can each be recalled within 3 seconds.

After two weeks, improve your speed with the ones you have learned. Go online:

Google: Abiator’s Times Table Emporium or go to:

<http://www.berghuis.co.nz/abiator/tables/frame1.html>