



Helping your child with maths in Years 5 and 6

This leaflet is to give you some ideas about how you can support your child's learning in maths in small, fun, practical ways at home this year.

Children's numeracy skills can be greatly boosted by help at home, in the same way that regular help with spelling and reading can nurture their literacy skills. Parents are often nervous to help in maths however, worried they may confuse their child by teaching them 'different' methods ("we didn't do it like this in my day..."). At Queensgate, we aim to teach children to work with number in lots of different ways. We know that what works for one child will not always make sense to another and that by giving them a range of different methods, they will be well equipped to select one which works for them. So please, be encouraged to talk about maths with your child, you never know, they may even teach you a new thing or two!





Multiplication tables

Helping your child to learn multiplication facts and regularly going over them will benefit them enormously. They should learn to recite them in order as well as give 'quickfire' answers when they are jumbled up (e.g. "What are seven eights?", "How many nine's make 81?"). This can be done on car journeys or whenever there is a spare 5 minutes.

By the time your child reaches Years 5 and 6 it is hoped that they will be familiar with all of their times tables. The focus now will not be on learning their times tables, but on cementing their confidence and knowledge of multiplication facts.

X	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Number work at home

Children's number skills can be supported in all sorts of fun ways at home. Children's number skills can be supported in all sorts of fun ways at home. Board games are a great way of making them familiar with the number system and addition and subtraction. Children can really enjoy inventing their own.

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'Every day maths'

An important part of children's learning in maths involves applying their skills to everyday problems and situations. Encouraging them to practise their maths skills in daily life will benefit them enormously. The following questions may give you some ideas:

You have 38 Dr Who cards and your brother has 23. How many do you have altogether?

There are 40 books here and we can fit 9 into each box. How many boxes will we need?

It is 170 miles to London. We have done 53 miles, how many left to go?

Useful websites

BBC Bitesize

ttrockstars.com

topmarks.co.uk

bbc.co.uk/skillswise/numbers/wholenumbers/multiplication/timestables

Discoveryeducation.co.uk/espresso

Prodigy



Shape

You could take your child on a 'shape walk' around an area such as Newport to see what 2D and 3D shapes they can spot. They should be able to spot different sorts of angles, lines of symmetry and parallel and perpendicular lines.

Money

Get your child to work out holiday spending money by using conversion charts in newspapers to convert pounds to foreign currency.

Go shopping in the sales (fun for all!) – what is the sale price if there is 10% off?

Give your child an Argos catalogue. Let them go on a 'fantasy spending spree'. What would they buy with £20 and how much change (if any!) would they have?

Time

Make sure that there are both traditional and digital clocks around the house for your child to practise reading the time to the nearest minute.

Use timetables and TV guides that use 24 hour clock times.

Give your child lots of time problems to solve. E.g. "Tea will be 45 minutes. What time will it be ready?"

Measures

Cooking is a great way for your child to practise weighing and measuring in grams and kilograms. It's a terrific way to learn to accurately read scales and measure out capacities in litres and centilitres. Following recipes will also make them familiar with imperial measurements such as pints, pounds and ounces.