



Fun ways to practise multiplication with Year 1 pupils

Times tables at-home activity 1: Foodiplication

Use small food items like raisins and grapes to up the stakes when practising grouping and arrays.

Counters can lose their novelty after a while, so spicing things up will certainly add to the fun!

Lay out a group of raisins (or whatever you prefer) and ask your child to group them into twos and threes before they eat them all.

This is a simple but effective way to encourage your child to think about the multiplication work they are doing, and they get the benefit of having an immediate tasty treat at the end!

Times tables at-home activity 2: Silly number sentences

The best way to prepare for multiplication in number sentences is to say number sentences out loud so they get used to the vocabulary.

Read the following phrases out loud with your child and see if they can repeat them back to you. To ensure that your child is engaged with the game, get them to do a silly voice when they repeat each number sentence back to you.

An example game could look like:

Say $2 \times 3 = 6$ in a **lion's** voice.

Say $6 \div 2 = 3$ in **grandad's** voice.

Say $6 \div 3 = 2$ in your **teacher's** voice.

Say $2 \times 4 = 8$ in your **most silly** voice.

Say $8 \div 4 = 2$ in **my** voice!

Say $8 \div 2 = 4$ in a **dog's** voice.