



How to help at home: Year 4

Maths

Children knowing their times table facts is very important as these are needed for children to successfully access large parts of the maths curriculum.

In June 2024 all year 4 children will sit the multiplication times table check (MTC). During this, children will be asked 25 multiplication questions from the 2-12 times tables. For each question they will have 6 seconds to answer it. This is an online test that will be completed on the iPads. To help your child prepare for this, please practice their quick recall of times tables as frequently as possible. Below are some ideas you could try at home.

TT Rockstars

<https://play.ttrockstars.com>

The way children answer questions when playing this online game is very similar to the MTC. Regularly playing on this will be excellent preparation. The Sound Check on TT Rockstars replicates the test and we recommend that your child practices this daily.

Rock paper scissors

The game rock paper scissors with a twist! After saying 'Rock, paper, scissors' the person who wins gives their partner a times table fact. You can focus this game on a particular times table or pick any from 2-12.

Towers

Get some paper cups and write a times table fact on the outside and the answer on the inside. Give children one minute to answer as many questions on the cups as they can. Each one they get right; they can use to build a tower.

Cards

Split a pack of cards into two piles. Get the children to pick a card from each pile and then times the two numbers together to create a times table number sentence.

My Maths

The My Maths website which the children use for their homework has lots of useful resources and games for all areas of the Year 4 curriculum

Other websites

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/7-11-years/times-tables>
<https://www.timestables.co.uk/>
<https://nrich.maths.org/primary>
<http://www.math-exercises-for-kids.com/elementary-math-5.htm>

Fluency with number and estimation.

Please continue to support your child with developing and maintaining their fluency with number. Frequent practice improves their ability to recall knowledge quickly and accurately. Knowledge of number bonds to 100 and the place value of a digit is essential to more complex calculations.

Children also need to be able to multiply and divide by 10 and 100.

Furthermore, challenge the children to find 10 or 100 more of a number as well as rounding to the nearest 10 and 100.

We have been looking at money and decimal places in Year 4. When you're out shopping and you're paying with cash, see if your child can work out how much change you will get. This could either be exact or an estimate based on rounding the cost of something to a whole pound.

Number fluency

Throughout the year, your child will focus on different mental strategies. Please continue to support this by giving your child different calculations and asking them which strategy they would use and why in order to solve it.

MA6: Number Bonds

$$42 + 16 + 28 + 54 = 140$$

70 70

MA2: Round & Adjust

$$345 + 298 = 643$$

$$345 + 300 - 2 = 643$$

$$645 - 2 = 643$$

MS4b: Counting On

$$324 - 280 = 44$$

+20 +24

280 300 324

MM10: Jump!

$$3400 \times 100 = 340000$$

$$340 \times 10 = 3400$$

$$34 \times 100 = 3400$$

MM1: Manipulate Calculation

$$16 \times 3 = 48$$

+2 +2

$$8 \times 6 = 48$$

MA1: Partitioning

$$648 + 231 = 879$$

800 + 70 + 9 = 879

MA3: Partitioning

$$132 - 58 = 74$$

-52 -6

132 80 74

MA1: Manipulate Calculation

$$345 + 298 = 643$$

343 + 2 + 298 = 643

$$343 + 300 = 643$$

MA2: Round & Adjust

$$876 - 298 = 578$$

$$876 - 300 + 2 = 578$$

$$576 + 2 = 578$$

MS1: Manipulate Calculation

$$876 - 298 = 578$$

+2 +2

$$878 - 300 = 578$$



Ashdene Primary School

Thoresway Rd, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 6LJ

Tel: 01625 917335

Email: admin@ashdene.cheshire.sch.uk

Website: www.ashdeneschool.net

Headteacher: Mrs Collette Mather

MA4a: Counting On $784 + 60 = 844$ 	MM4: Partitioning $15 \times 5 = 75$ $50 + 25 = 75$ 	MSSa: Counting Back $7291 - 2000 = 5291$ 	MAS: Double & Adjust $37 + 38 = 75$ $37 + 37 + 1 = 75$ $74 + 1 = 75$ 	MD6b: Find the Hunk! $136 \div 4 = 34$
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Spelling

In year 4, children are taught to spell words with prefixes and suffixes. They should be able to correctly spell a wide range of homophones as well as using the possessive apostrophe accurately in words including plurals. They should be able to accurately spell words found in the Year 3/4 spelling lists and apply their knowledge of spelling rules to help with more complex vocabulary.

<https://www.spellzone.com/curriculum/national-curriculum/years-3-4.cfm>

Word Building

Can the children create new words using the spelling rule they are learning?

Have commonly misspelt words stuck around the house. Randomly test your child on them. E.g. which/witch; with/whith; were/where; there/their/they're

Hangman

Try to figure out your partner's word by guessing letters. Each incorrect letter is part of the drawing. Guess the word before it is complete.

Weekly spelling

Ask your child what their spelling rule is for that week and what words they can remember from their list. Can they add to this list at home throughout the week?

Anagrams

Jumble the letters from a word from the list. Can children unscramble it?

Homophones

Explore homophones in different sentences. Correct or not correct.

Definitions

Find the definitions of the words. Can they use them correctly in a sentence? Find antonyms and synonyms to develop their understanding of its meaning.

Prefix and Suffixes

Give the children different spellings. Can they change the meaning using different prefixes and suffixes?

Backwards spelling

Practice writing their spelling backwards. Can they try and spell their words out loud backwards?

Grammar

In year 4, children should be able to write at length, considering the genre, audience and purpose of their writing. Writing should include a range of sentence types with more than one clause found within different places of a sentence. Words and placement of punctuation should be chosen carefully to ensure clarity and cohesion of writing. Children need to understand and use grammatical terminology from the Y4 National Curriculum and apply this in their writing.

Reading for writer hints

When reading a text that the children really enjoy, look for what the writer has done to make it so good.

- Long/ short sentences used to build tension and suspense.
- Use of similes and metaphors.
- Repetition of words.
- Power of 3.
- Use of different clauses.
- Fronted adverbials.

Editing

Ask children to proof read your writing. This could be a letter, a note or even a work email. They love finding mistakes in someone else's work, especially an adults!

Choose a section from a text that they found boring, can they rewrite it to make it better?



Reading

Year 4 children should be reading for meaning, be developing a wide range of vocabulary and showing a greater understanding of what they have read through drawing inferences. We recommend that children read at home every day for 20 minutes. The children read for 10-15 minutes in school and also listen to their teacher read aloud daily. Each half term, the children are set reading targets which they should be aiming to exceed by reading and quizzing on books frequently.

When reading at home:

- Encourage children to ask questions to develop a greater understanding.
- Discuss the meaning of new and unfamiliar vocabulary. Children could use dictionaries to find definitions of words. Can they discuss the meaning of words in context?
- Discuss words and phrases that capture the reader's interest.
- Make predictions about what books will be about and what may happen next.
- Ask children questions where they have to hunt for the answer within the text.
- Discuss the characters and events in the story. Can children explain their thoughts using words from the texts?
- Discuss similarities and differences between books that the children have read.
- Can children summarise what has happened in a chapter? Can they do this in 20, 10 or 5 words?
- Read aloud with expression.

The best way to encourage your child's reading is to show enthusiasm towards reading and exploring a wide range of books.