



Times tables Tips for Parents

Identify the actual tables that your child needs to work on

Use flashcards to check through the whole x table e.g. 2s. Child to say the answer

Make 3 piles: 1 fluent, 1 with hesitation, 1 not known

Explain that the focus of the lesson is to move the hesitation cards into the fluent pile and the not known into the hesitation pile. (If there are a lot that they don't know, just focus on 2)

Use a multi-sensory approach to teach and to help the child **visualise** and **understand** the tables

Focus on the cards in their '**not known**' pile

Examples of possible activities

Show as repeated addition

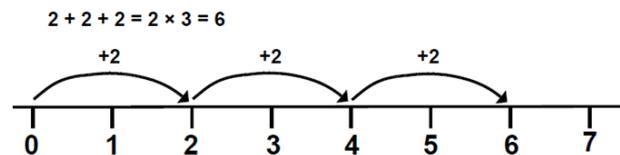


$$2 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 8$$

$$2 \times 4$$

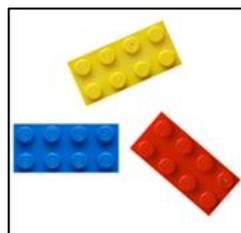
2 multiplied by 4

Show as repeated numbers on a number line



Show as groups of

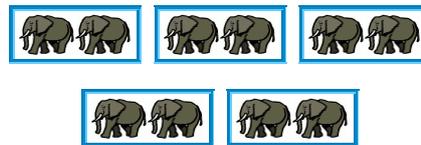
Here we have **five** groups, and each group has **two** elephants



3 groups of 2

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

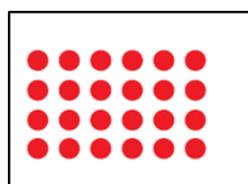
$$5 \times 2 = 10$$



Check that they understand the commutative property (they don't need to know the vocabulary)

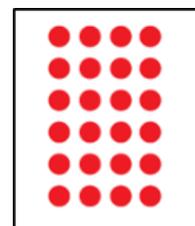
4×6 is the same 6×4

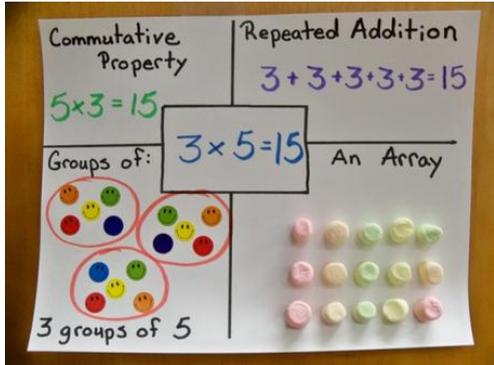
Demonstrate an array of $4 \times 6 = 24$
4 rows with 6 counters in each row
how this can now be



written as $6 \times 4 = 24$

Then turn the paper through 90°
Show



Give your child opportunity to explain and discuss	
Use known facts	<p>E.g. if you know 3×4 is 12, then you can double the answer for 6×4</p> <p>If you know 11×5 is 55, then you can just add on 5 for 12×5</p> <p>If you know 10×6 is 60, then you can halve it for 5×6</p> <p>If you know 6×3 is 18, then you can work out 60×3 and 0.6×3 etc (KS2)</p>
Explain different ways to represent that calculation	
Recite the multiples	
Recite from 0 up to x 12	Just say 2, 4, 6, 8 etc. Point to each finger as they say the numbers. Make it fun so try a rap, different voices, speed etc
Practice instant recall	
Speed practice	<p>Focus on the cards in their 'hesitant' pile</p> <p>Lots of repetition</p> <p>Be as creative as you like e.g. play hopscotch with times tables chalked in the squares, throw beanbags at each other with quick fire questions</p> <p>A useful website is http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games</p> <p>Choose the category times tables, or multiplication and division and play the games. A popular game is 'Hit the Button'</p> <p>Begin without speed pressure and aim to build up their fluency</p>

National curriculum guidelines state that children should ...

Year 1: Count in multiples of twos, fives and tens. Use concrete objects to solve multiplication and division problems

Year 2: Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 multiplication tables

Year 3: Recall and use multiplication and division facts for the 3, 4 and 8 multiplication tables

Year 4: Recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12×12