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- CHOOSE A PASSWORD
- PLAY BUZZ
- SHOW YOUR FINGERS
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#1 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY WORK

Understanding what exactly the times tables mean, will make them easier to remember.

Have your child draw out groups of circles to represent the tables tables. Cool Math.com has a nice page showing how groups of objects relate to the times tables at: http://www.coolmath4kids.com/times-tables/times-tables-lesson-multiplication-l.html

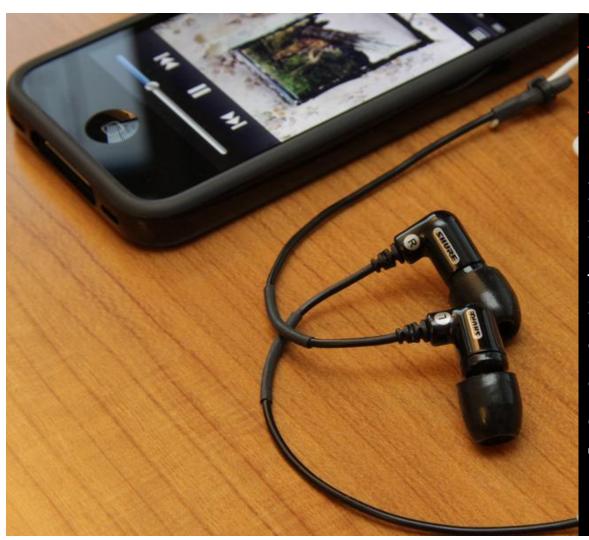
#2 RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK

Adding a sense of competition works great, especially if you make the finishing line easily to reach.

Print out 2 copies of the times tables worksheets and either race against the clock with your child. Try to improve your times over a few consecutive days.



#3 ANSWER ORAL QUESTIONS



Answering questions orally is much faster than writing the answers.

Download or play the
Faster Times Tables
Audio questions for 5
minutes of oral questions
or read out some
questions from memory
or from the Faster Times
Tables worksheets

#4 LISTEN TO THE TIMES TABLES



You may have read about people learning foreign languages just by listening to audio lessons.

The Faster Times Tables program includes 5 minute loops of each times table. Download or play while your child is relaxed to help them memorise the tables.

#5 THROW SOME DICE

This basic equipment can be used to quickly and easily practice questions up to the 6 X times tables (or higher if you have 10 or 12 sided dice)

Get your child to throw 2 dice and multiply the results together. Grab 3 dice to make this game more challenging!



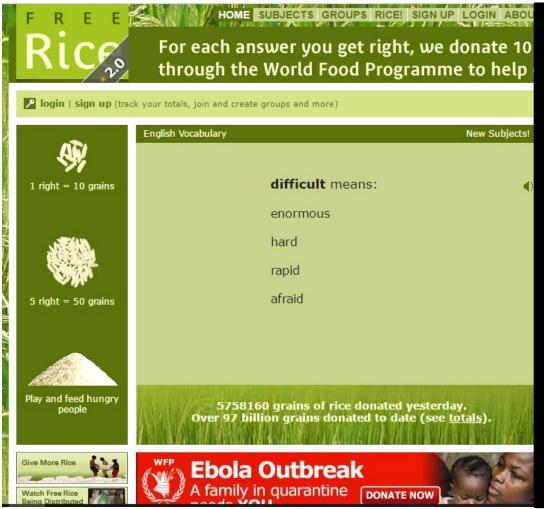
#6 GRAB SOME PLAYING CARDS



Playing cards are another simple piece of equipment that can be used in many ways to practise the times tables.

Take turns with your child to pick 2 cards from a pile and multiply them together. To make the game harder, check to see if one card can be divided by the other.

#7 HELP THE POOR



Regular practice of the times tables in different situations is essential to help fix them in your child's mind.

FreeRice.com, a non profit website, donates 10 grains of rice to feed the poor for every correct times table question it's readers answer!

http://www.freerice.com



Combining times tables practice with addition practice is a great way to extend your child. Try Damult Dice:

The Rules: Each player takes turns rolling 3 dice. First to break 200 (or 500, etc.) wins. On your turn, you get to choose two dice to add together, then you multiply the sum by the final die. That's your score for that turn.

Courtesy of http://www.mathforlove.com



Rules: Each turn, the upper card is the target card. You start with two cards in your hand, and take cards from the deck. Your goal is to take two that add, subtract, multiply, or divide to make the target value. Do as many rows as possible.

Courtesy of http://www.mathforlove.com



Exercise your child's mind and body at the same time.

Exercising while studying increases the blood supply to your child's brain, helping them to retain facts.

For skip counting, your child can choose a times table e.g 2's and then count as he skips; 2, 4, 6, 8 etc

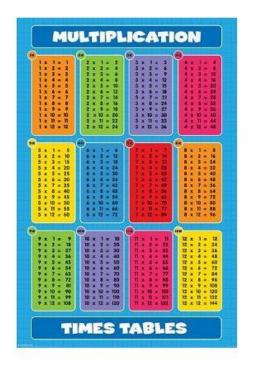
#11 REVERSE THE QUESTION

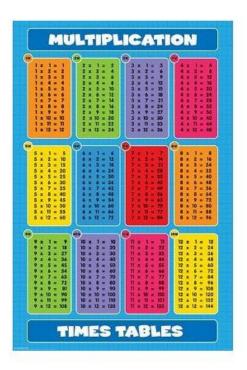
The next step after learning the times tables, is to use them for division questions.

Reverse the questions on the times table that your child is working on e.g. $6 \times 4 = 18$?



#12 DECORATE THE ROOM





Put a times tables poster up on the wall in a place where your where your child is likely to spend time.

Looking at the poster will give your child the chance to notice patterns in the times tables as well as helping to keep the mutiplication facts fresh in their memory.

#13 GRAB A SMARTPHONE

Kids love smartphones, especially if they belong to mum or dad and they don't normally get to use them!

Download a few times tables apps.

Two iphone apps which I like are Math Girl Games and Times Tables Clock.
Great for times tables practice on the move!



#14 FILL IN A SQUARE

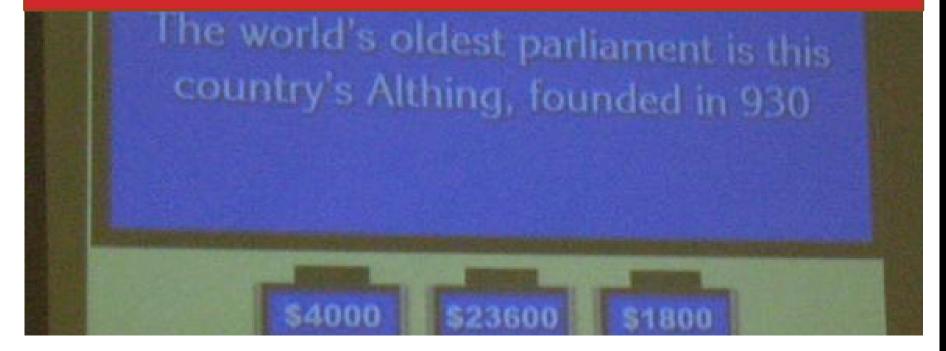
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60

Multiplication Squares are full of interesting patterns for your child to observe. Let your child fill in an empty or partially empty Multiplication Square, and then shade a few different times tables, each in a different colour.

#15 PLAY TIMES TABLE JEOPARDY

Doing something a little unusual with the times tables is a good way to keep your child interested.

Take turns picking a number between 0 and 100. See how many times tables questions you can find that will give that number as the answer.



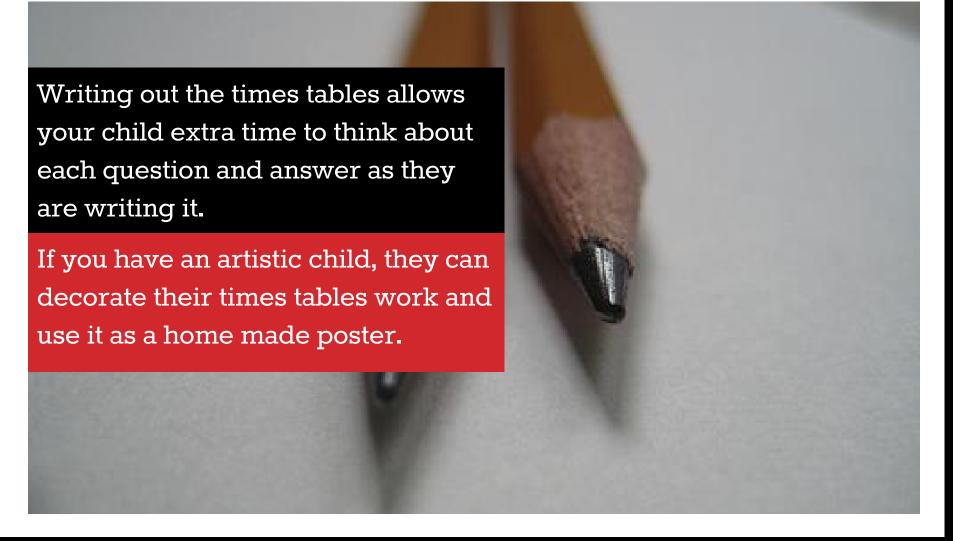
#16 FLASH THOSE CARDS



Flash cards are a well loved tool for memorisation.

Create a set of flash cards of difficult times tables questions. As your child memorises each question, remove it from the pile, giving a visual reminder of the progress they've made.

#17 WRITE SOME LINES



#18 CHANTING



If you've ever memorized a poem, you'll know that reciting or chanting is an effective way rote learning method.

Help your child to chant a set of times tables, firstly forwards, and then, to make it a little more challenging, try reciting them Backwards!

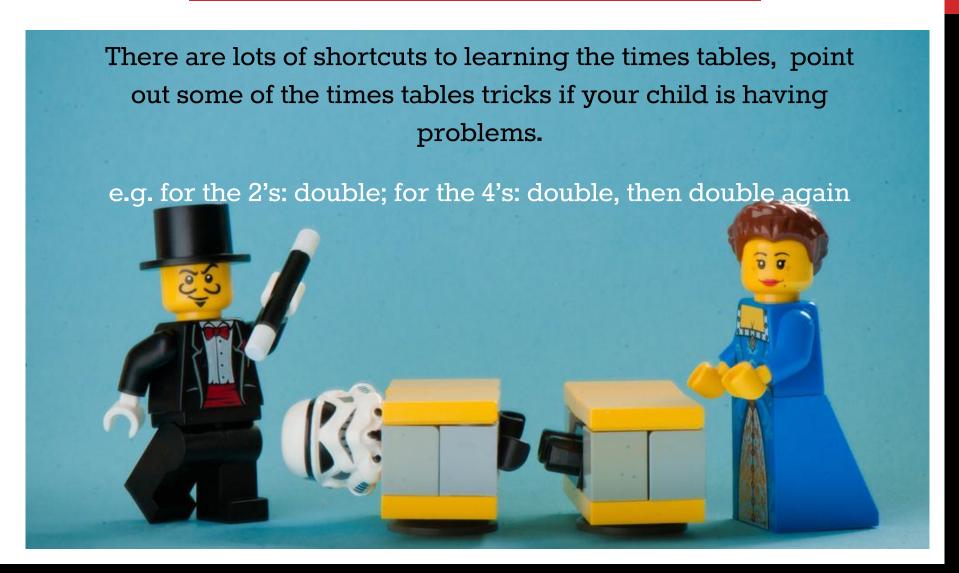
#19 LISTEN TO SOME RAP



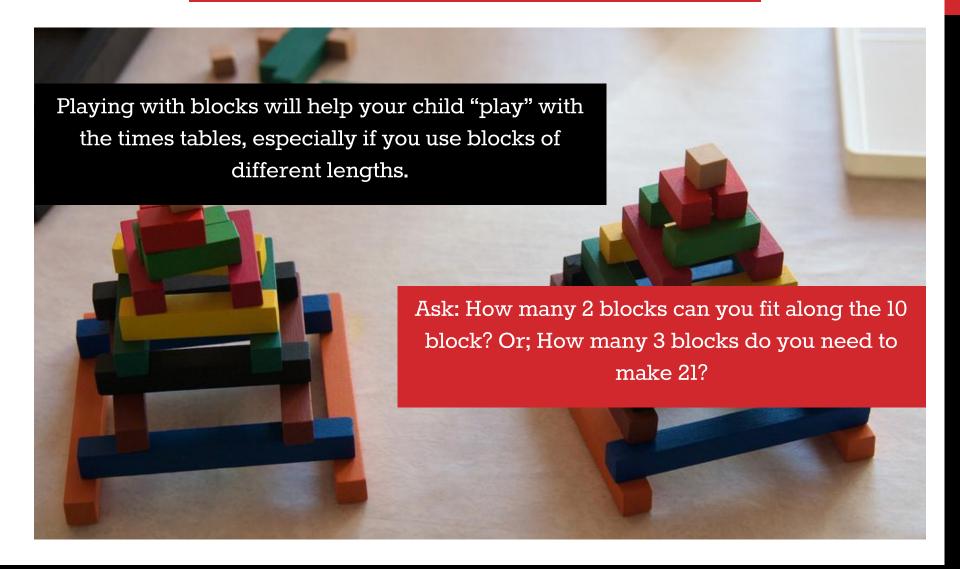
A variation on the idea of chanting is for your child to listen to or make up a times tables rap.

You Tube has several times tables raps that can provide some multiplication inspiration!

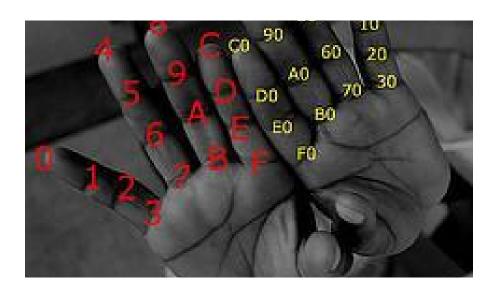
#20 LEARN A MAGIC TRICK



#21 PLAY WITH BLOCKS



#22 SHOW YOUR HANDS



Show your child how to do the nine times tables on their hands.

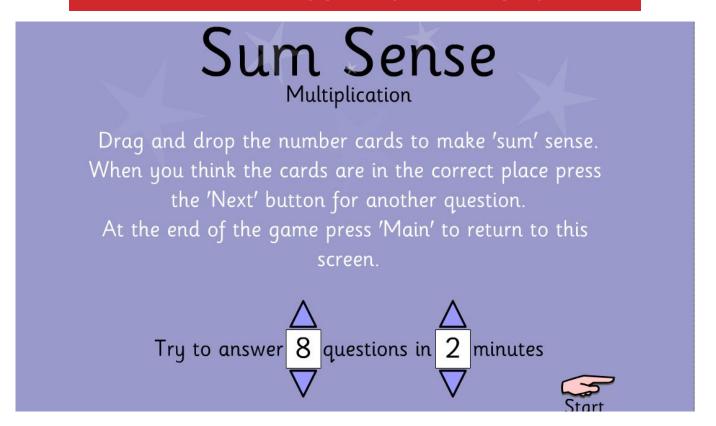
- 1. Hold their hands in front of them with their fingers spread out.
- 2. For 9 X 3 bend their third finger down. (9 X 4 would be the fourth finger etc.)
 - 3. They have 2 fingers in front of the bent finger and 7 after the bent finger.
 - 4. So the answer must be 27.
 - 5. This works for the 9 times tables up to 9×10 .



An empty egg box, with all it's equal sized sections is the perfect play tray to practice some hands on multiplication.

Your child can use chocolate chips, dried beans or raisins to count out the times tables.

#24 MAKE SOME SENTENCES



Make a set of number cards and some times and equals cards. Use them to make times tables sentences. An online version called Sum Sense is at

http://www.oswego.org/ocsd-web/games/SumSense/summulti.html

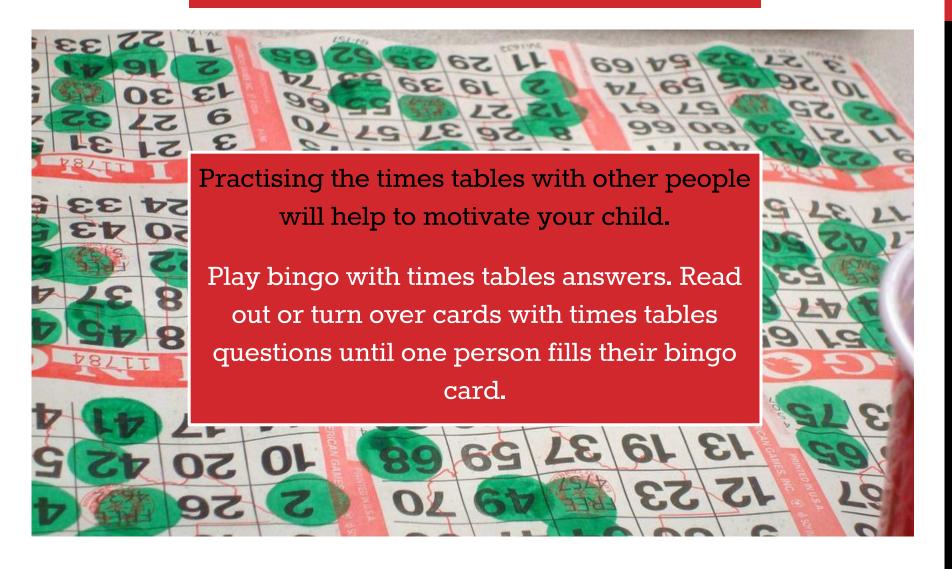
#25 EXPLORE RECTANGLES

Working out the area of rectangles is a common application of the times tables.

Help your child to see the connection between the area of rectangles and the times tables by using square pieces of paper or cubes to make rectangles of different. sizes



#26 PLAY BINGO



31 WAYS TO

CTISE THE TIMES TABLES

27 RUN A RACE

Mixing the times tables with exercise and some competition will make times tables practice more fun.

Your child can race back and forth either against the clock or against someone else, while answering times tables questions at each end.



#28 CHOOSE A PASSWORD



If your child has difficulty remembering a particular number fact, choose that fact along with the answer e.g. $9 \times 6 = 54$ as a password on a computer or a combination lock that your child uses. Courtesy of http://beckyperry.us/

#29 PLAY BUZZ



Some games just work better with big groups, so save this one for when the whole family can play or when your child has friends over.

Choose a number between 2 and 9.

The first person says 1, the next
player says 2, and so on.

When they reach a multiple of the
number chosen, that player says
"buzz" instead of the number.

If a player forgets to say buzz, she is out!



If your child likes playing, "Rock, Paper, Scissors" they'll welcome the chance to practise their times tables using this variation.

On the count of 3, each player holds out a number of fingers on their hand (or on both hands for harder questions). The first person to work out what the 2 numbers multiplied together make, wins a point.



This game will test your child's reflexes as well as their times tables.

Two players stand a distance apart and throw a ball between each other. The thrower asks a questions and the catcher has to answer before catching the ball.