

# Year 1 Times Tables: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

## What Is This Guide?

This step-by-step explanation to year 1 times tables can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when learning about year 1 times tables, either to support your child's homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. In this guide, you will find a step that matches your child's level of understanding and then have suggested activities which can be used to support that step.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.



We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

# Year 1 Times Tables

## Why Are Times Tables So Important?

Having a strong knowledge of the times tables will help children in other areas of maths, not just in school, but throughout their lives. Times tables come into nearly every area of maths, such as fractions, ratio and proportion, division and multiplication, area and perimeter and much more.

By year 4, children are expected to know all of the times tables (up to  $12 \times 12$ ) and the related division facts, i.e. knowing that  $12 \div 4 = 3$  is a division fact of  $3 \times 4 = 12$ .

For this reason, times tables are first introduced in year 1 to give children the time and experience they need to master them. From year 1 to year 4, new times tables are introduced each year so that children can master them in stages.

## What Times Tables Are Children Expected to Know in Year 1?

By the end of year 1, children are expected to be able to:

- count in multiples of twos, fives and tens.

This guide will help you to support the learning of year 1 times tables at home. Each step contains an explanation of that stage and a link to an appropriate resource which can be used at home to support your child's learning.

As well as using the resources in this category, and the keyword searches to help your child with times tables, below are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child practise times tables at home.



### Counting Together

This is a simple activity that takes no preparation and can be done anywhere. Simply practise counting in different steps with your child (either in 2s, 5s or 10s). You could use a visual aid – like a number line – so your child can see the numbers in the sequence.

### Counting Groups

Making groups from toys, sweets, images, etc. is a fun way to practise counting in amounts. You could ask your child to sort some toys (or other objects) into groups of 2 and practise counting the groups together to see how many there are in total.

### Counting Bridge

On sheets of paper, draw images to represent the steps you wish to practise counting in, i.e. pairs of gloves or 5 fish. Do this on each sheet of paper.

Then, glue or tape all of the sheets of paper together to make one long sheet (or bridge) that you can walk along. Take it in turns with your child to walk along the bridge and count up in steps of that amount. For instance, if you drew five fish on each step of the bridge, as you walk along, you would count, "5, 10, 15, 20...".

### Counting Songs

There are a multitude of counting songs to be found online, which you could search and use to help your child practise counting. Alternatively, you could make up your own counting song with your child. Simply choose a popular song or nursery rhyme that your child knows very well. Then, add the numbers of the sequence to the tune instead of the words (for example, singing 5, 10, 15, 20 to the tune of 'Twinkle, Twinkle' instead of the original words).



## Step 1

### Counting in 2s

When counting in different steps – such as 2s – images and practical resources are often used to help children count in these steps. When counting at home, you can use objects such as toys, sweets or socks to introduce counting in 2s. Simply line up pairs of objects and practise counting them in 2s (i.e. 2, 4, 6, 8).

You can also try using this **Counting in 2s Maths Activity Bumper Pack**, which contains game and activities to help your child to practise counting in 2s.

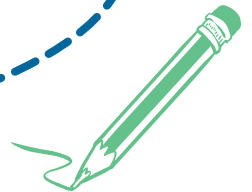


### Counting in 10s

When counting in tens, it is best to start from 0, counting the multiples of ten (10, 20, 30, 40, etc.). You can write the multiples of ten up to one hundred on a line and the numbers 1-10 below. Ask your child what they notice. They should see that the digits for 10-100 are the same as the digits for 1-10 except with a 0 on the end. That's because they are ten times bigger.

At home, you can also use this **Counting in 10s Cut and Stick Activity**, which can help your child order the numbers 10-100. It will also help them to read the numbers and you can use this to practise reading them aloud. As a challenge, cover different numbers in the sequence and ask your child to name the number that has been covered.

## Step 2



## Step 3

### Counting in 5s

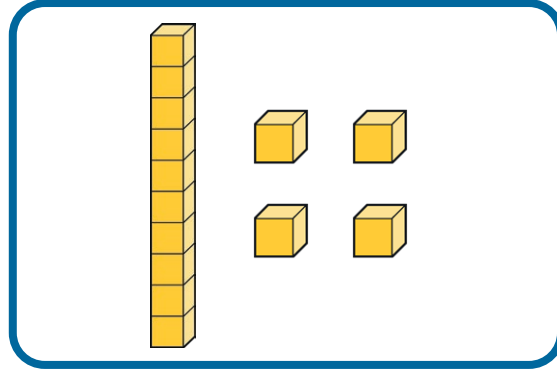
In much the same process as the other sequences above, visual and practical resources are a great way to help your child to practise counting in 5s at home. Try using this **Hundred Number Square** and ask your child to shade every fifth number. Explain that this will show all the numbers you would say as you go up in 5s. Ask what they notice about the numbers. They might notice that all multiples of 5 end in either a 5 or a zero. Once they've completed this square, you can use it as a reference sheet for whenever you are practising counting in 5s.



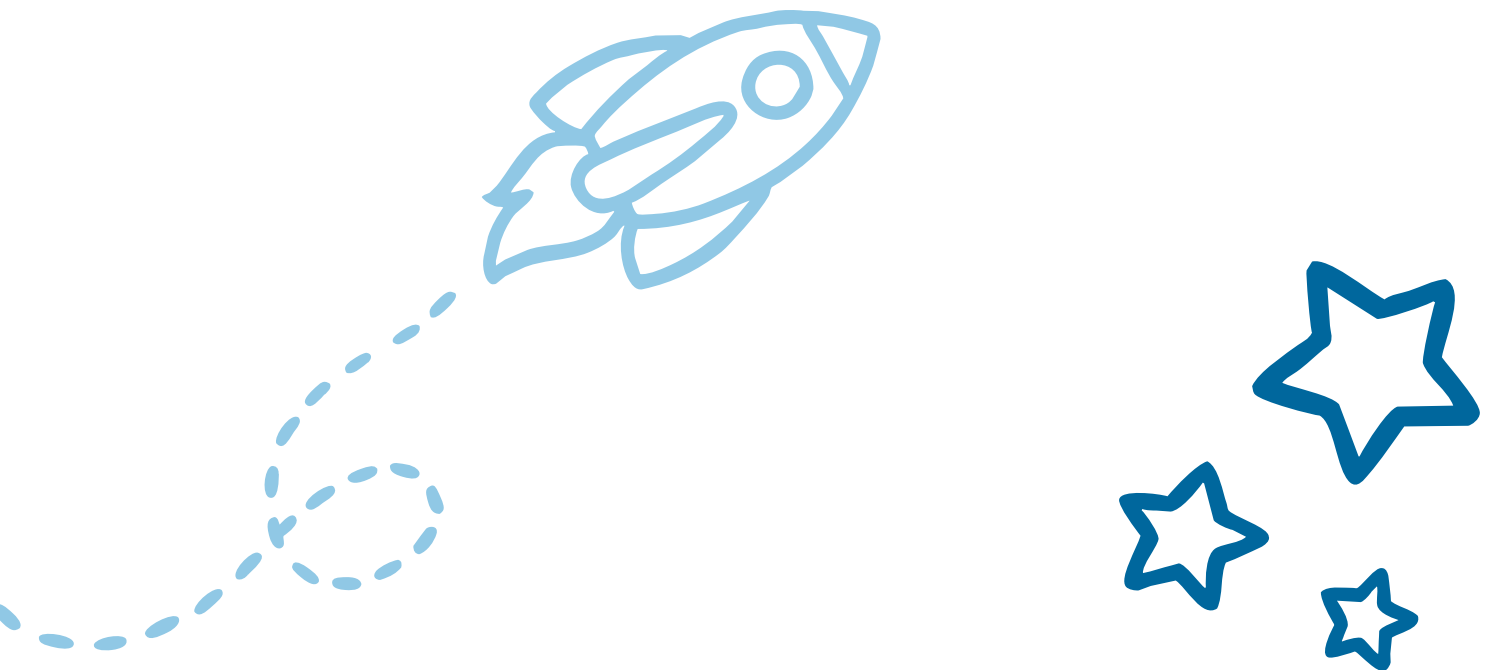
## Step 4

### Counting in 10s When the Ones Are More Than Zero

Once children can count in multiples of ten from zero (i.e. 10, 20, 30, 40), the next challenge for them is to count in 10s when the ones are more than zero (such as 12, 22, 32, 42, etc.). To do this, your child needs to understand that when adding 10 to a number, the ones don't change. In school, this is often shown using images to help children understand. At home, try using these **Dienes Cut-Outs** to help your child. You only need to print the tens and ones. Make a number using one ten and then a few ones, such as 14:



Ask your child to say what number they can see. Explain that you are going to add ten more. Ask, 'What's the new number?' If they need help, work this out together. (There are two tens which make 20, and four ones). Take it in turns at adding ten more and saying the number. Do this several times with different numbers to help them practise counting in tens when the ones are more than zero. You could also use the counting bridge suggested above to help your child to practise counting in tens.



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Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire children from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!