

Year 2 Times Tables: A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to year 2 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 2 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.

Click here



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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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.

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 the times tables (up to 12×12) 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 2?

By the end of year 2, children are expected to:

- know the multiplication facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.
- know the division facts for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

This guide will help you support the learning of year 2 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 table at home.

Counting Together

This is a simple activity, that takes no preparation and can be done anywhere. Simply practise counting out in different steps with your child (either in 2s, 5s or 10s).

Counting Cakes

Baking is a great way to practise times tables (at least for a short time until they get eaten). Either bake or buy 12 plain cupcakes. Then, using icing, add sweets to decorate each cake. The sweets should be an amount you wish to practise counting in (such as placing 2 sweets on each cake). Once completed, tell your child that they have to count the sweets on the cakes, counting in steps several times, before they can eat one.

Times Table Hopping Line

On sheets of paper, write out the numbers from a times table you wish to practise (such as 2 or 5). Stick or tape the sheets of paper together in sequence to make a times tables bridge. Take it in turns with your child to walk along the bridge, saying the numbers as you go (such as 2, 4, 6, 8, 10). Once practised, challenge each other to step on the correct stone by asking multiplication questions, such as ' $3 \times 2 =$ ' and the other player has to go to the corresponding answer on the bridge (6 in this case).

Times Table Song

There is a multitude of times tables songs online, which you could search and use to help your child practise singing their times tables. Alternatively, you could make up your own times table song with your child. Simply choose a popular song or nursery rhyme that your child knows really well. Then, add the numbers of the times table to the tune instead of the words. This can be a really fun and enjoyable way to learn times tables.



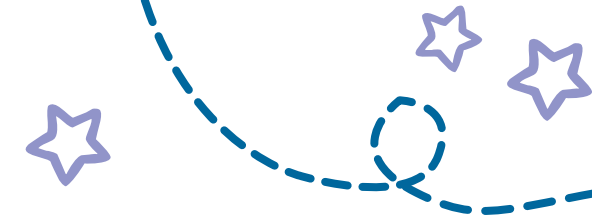
The activities on the following page can be used for any times table, from introduction to a times table to division. You can follow this sequence of steps for each of the year 2 times tables: 2 times table, 5 times table and 10 times table.

Step 1

Counting in Multiples

When introducing a times table at home, it's always good practice to begin by counting in steps of that times table (e.g. 2, 4, 6, 8) and using practical resources and images to help your child understand counting in different amounts (such as counting pairs of socks in twos).

At home, you can use these **Counting in 2s on Socks**, **Counting in 5s Numbers on Hands** or these **Counting in 10s on Hot Air Balloons** to help your child with the times tables you are working on. Simply print these posters, display them on a wall or the floor, and practise counting that sequence together. If placed on the floor, you could use them as stepping stones, saying each number aloud as it is stepped on. Also, once your child feels confident counting in a sequence, you could mix them up and ask your child to put them back in the correct order to create a challenge.



Introducing Multiplication (Lots Of)

Once your child feels confident in counting in the steps of a times table, the next stage would be to introduce multiplication. We can do this by using the term 'lots of'. For instance, we can ask, 'What are 3 lots of 2?' You can then work this out with your child by making three groups of two. (This could be groups of two toys, coins, sweets, etc.) Count the groups: 2, 4, 6. Once counted, help your child to understand that this is multiplication by stating aloud, 'That's right. 3 lots of 2 is 6. So, $3 \times 2 = 6$ (or 2 multiplied by 3 is 6)'. This helps your child to become familiar with the terms 'times' and 'multiply'.

At home, try using these Counting Number Shapes to help your child practise doing this. Simply print 12 of the number you wish to practise (i.e. if doing the 2 times table, print 12 and cut out 12 copies of the shape representing 2). Ask your child to find different amounts using 'lots of', 'times' and 'multiplied'. For example, you may ask them to solve: '4 lots of 2', ' 6×2 ' or '2 multiplied by 7'. Then, using the number shapes, your child could get the correct amount and work out the answer. Do this for the 2, 5 and 10 times tables.

Step 2

Step 3

Practising Times Tables

Once your child feels confident counting in steps of a given number and has begun to multiply the number with visual examples, the next stage is to practise the times tables so that they know them by heart. All children have preferred ways to learn times tables – just like we do as adults! Your child may like to write out times tables over and over again or your child may learn best when singing, dancing or playing a board game.

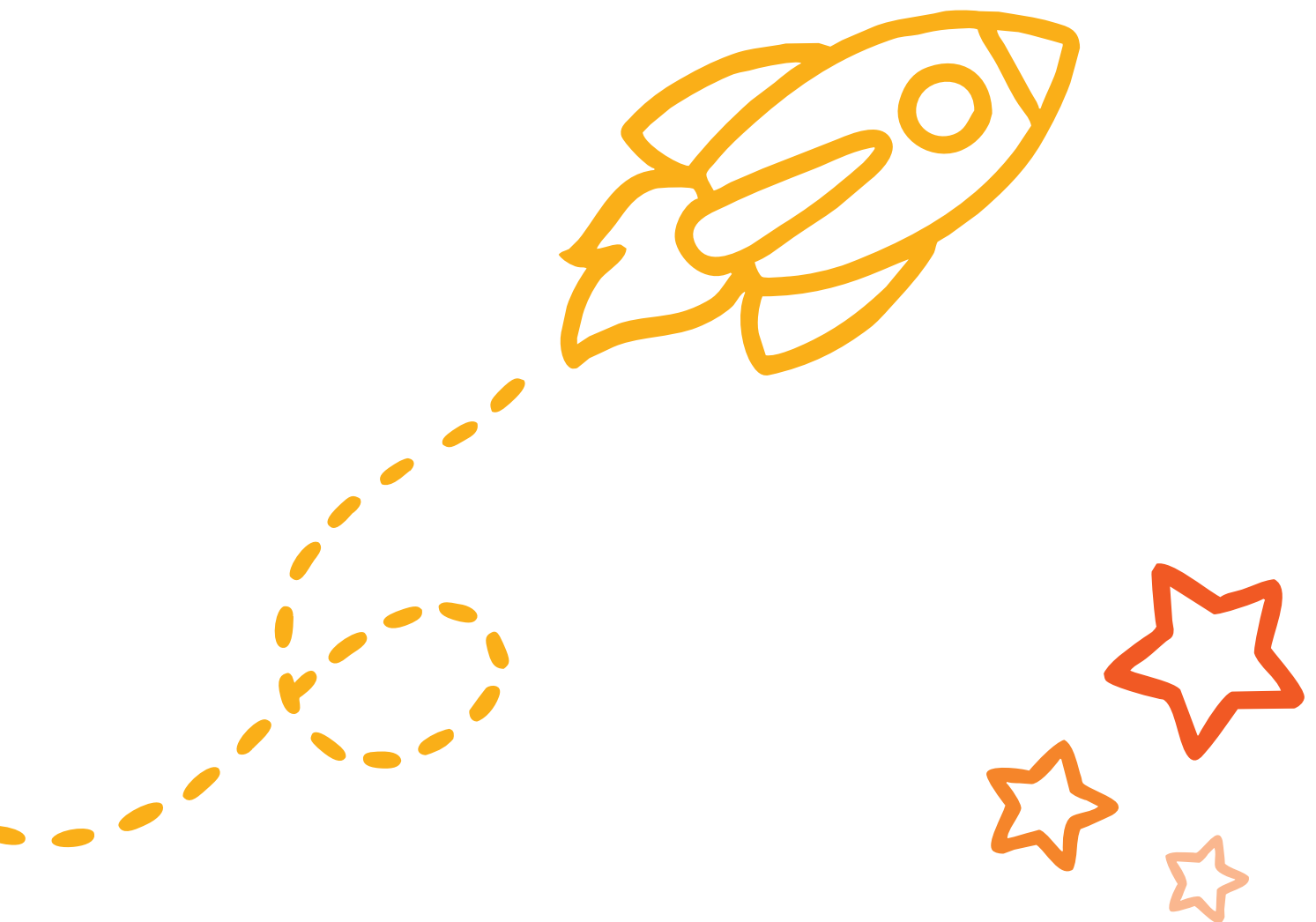
At home, why not try multiplication maths mosaics so that children can colour as they practice their times tables? **This 2, 5, and 10 Multiplication Mosaic** has problems to solve to reveal emojis.

Step 4

Beginning to Look at Division

Once children are familiar with the idea of multiplication, division can be introduced. This can be done very simply by using the phrase 'How many?' For example: 'How many 2s are in 10? How many 5s are in 25? How many tens are in 10?' At home, you can use real objects to do this. For example, with 12 toys, you could ask your child how many twos go into 12. Help them sort the toys into groups of two and count them. Once completed, you can verbally model the language of division by saying, '6 groups of 2 go into 12 so 12 divided by 2 equals 6'.

These are known as division facts, i.e. when you know that $6 \times 2 = 12$, you also know that $12 \div 2 = 6$. Try using this **2, 5, 10 Times Tables Division Facts Spin Wheel Pack** to help your child to learn and practise the division facts for each times table.



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