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Introduction

The Mighty Multiples Times Table Challenge provides a fun, interactive and practical way of learning the times tables.

This unique approach is:

Fun

The scheme contains enjoyable activities which engage children in their learning.

Interactive

It provides a visual, auditory and kinaesthetic approach to learning the times tables which will appeal to all children, whatever their learning style:

- ◆ **Visual** - Each times table is linked to a sporting character and there are visual grouping sheets, number fans, 144 grids and bingo games
- ◆ **Auditory** - Pupils can listen and sing along to the character's songs and poems on the CD
- ◆ **Kinaesthetic** - Activities to enable you to jump and leap your way through the times tables! Links to PE and major sporting events!

Practical, tried and tested

This tried and tested method really works. Our trial schools recorded a significant improvement in children's understanding of the tables. We measured children's times table knowledge for the age appropriate level and, at the end of the trial, 84 percent could recite tables and almost all children could solve word problems relating to applying times table knowledge. The most marked improvement was in attitude towards the times tables. At the beginning 86 percent said they hated times tables and thought they were boring but, at the end of the year, 90 percent said they loved the Mighty Multiples!

The Mighty Multiples Times Table Challenge provides:

A fresh, new integrated approach

The scheme provides lots of practical multiplication and division activities so children gain full understanding. Children learn to apply their times table knowledge to word problems and everyday life situations.

In-built motivational rewards, badges and certificates

How long will it take for your pupils to achieve their Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Awards? (See page 21.)

Everything you need

The book and CD pack contains everything you need, from group games, number fans and visual grouping activities to songs, poems and assessment activities. All the songs and poems are recorded on the CD, along with instrumental versions of the songs.

Suggestions for starting a Mighty Multiples Club

A great way to raise the profile of maths across the school (see page 20).

Links to home

Tip sheets for parents for use at the park, while shopping and on the way to school to help make times tables relevant to everyday life (see pages 28-32).



Using the scheme in your school

The Mighty Multiples Times Table

Challenge is a whole school scheme, starting at Reception and continuing to Year 6. It teaches the times tables and consolidates number bond knowledge. The scheme is designed to teach the times tables by developing a clear understanding of how to use and apply this knowledge to division and word problems and not simply learning by rote.

Each times table or number bond is linked to a sporting character and each character has its own corresponding songs, poems and tips to help the children learn. The scheme is designed to be taught practically and should always remain fun.

The whole scheme is split into awards and follows a natural progression of skills. It starts with a bronze award, which covers number bonds and number stories to 20, up to a platinum award, covering the 11 and 12 times tables.

Included in the scheme are complete assessment materials, in order to monitor whole class and individual achievements.

When should we start the scheme?

The scheme is best started at the beginning of a new term. This will be a long enough stretch to measure progression.

How often should we use the scheme?

This is entirely up to your school. The scheme is designed to be flexible. You may choose to use it daily, weekly or just to fill the occasional spare moments in the week.

Should everyone take part?

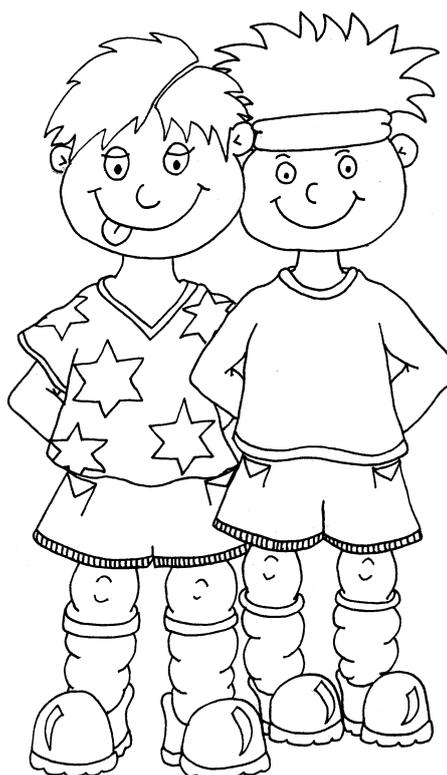
Yes! The idea of the scheme is that the characters are so well known and the achievement of an award is so well recognized that children are proud and self-motivated to take part.

When should we give awards?

We would ideally recommend that these are given out in whole school assemblies, in order to recognize achievement within the school community.

How do we know when to assess?

All teachers know their own pupils best. We recommend that you do not assess a child until you are sure they stand a good chance of passing the assessment as the testing is so thorough. Provided are morale boosting 'In between' certificates to acknowledge the hard work and effort put into learning (see pages 24-25)..



Assessment sheets

Assessment sheets are provided at the end of each number bond or times table. There is also a whole class tracking sheet to record individual's progress (page 27), which can be used in transition when children move to the next academic year. The child record sheet contains pictures of all the characters and details of what they should be learning to achieve each award (page 26). When they complete a table assessment, they can colour in the corresponding character on their individual sheet.

What do we send home?

Each table has its own sheet to take home, including the table to learn and activities and tips to help do so. All tips are practical and fun! Parents should be encouraged to keep the fun element of this learning and not to make children learn the tables by rote.

It might be advisable to invite parents in for an open evening to explain the scheme and answer any questions, so that parents have a thorough understanding of what you are trying to achieve with their help.

Does every child have to start at the beginning of the scheme?

Yes! Although some children may be more advanced than number bonds and the tables necessary for the lower awards, it is important that every child starts at the same point. The more able children can be assessed immediately on the lower awards and achieve them quickly. It not only consolidates each child's knowledge but is motivating both for that child and other children to see the reality of people achieving awards.

