

# Mind the gap

5  
times table

## Activity

Ask 30 children to stand in a long line, with gaps between them.

Invite two children to stand, one each side of the line, a short distance away and roll the hoop to each other. They should move up the line, rolling it through the gaps between each group of five children and chanting: 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30. Then they should move back down the line, rolling the hoop through the gaps between each group of five children again and chanting: 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60.

If preferred, children can swap places and two different children can take a turn at rolling the hoop through the gaps as they move back down the line. The game should continue until each player has taken a turn. All players can help by calling out where the right gaps are and chanting the numbers in order.

## Learning objective

Understanding groups of 5 and how they can be put together to create the 5 times table.

## Preparation

Large hoop that can be easily rolled along the ground travelling some distance before it falls over.

## Number of players

32. Adults may join in with children if the group is not large enough.

## Extension/challenge

Call out multiple numbers at random while two children roll the hoop through the right gaps, with the help of the other players calling out instructions and advice.

Try this first with the line representing 5–30, then try it with the line representing 35–60. For example: 10, 20, 15, 30, 5, 25, then 50, 40, 45, 35, 60, 55.

