

# Times-tables – ways to help at home

Children need to know their times-tables and understand how they work.

They need to know why times-tables can be helpful. They need opportunities to link them to everyday life -for example, is 50p is enough to buy 2 apples at 20p each?

You can help by asking questions like: ‘everyone in the family can have 2 biscuits - how many biscuits will we need altogether?’

Children learn times tables in this order:

2 10 5 3 4 6 8 9 7 11 12

Children need to make connections between times-table facts. Look at these examples:

$$2 \times 3 = 6$$

$$3 \times 2 = 6$$

$$6 \div 2 = 3$$

$$6 \div 3 = 2$$

Can you see the pattern? Multiplication and division are inverse operations; this means they are the opposites of each other. By knowing one answer you can work out all the others.

Ways to learn times-tables: chanting, singing, flash cards, a poster on fridge, games, technology.

Try to learn just two or three tricky times-table facts every day.

Say together a times-table forwards (then backwards?).

Find out which ones are tricky.

Ask questions in different ways.

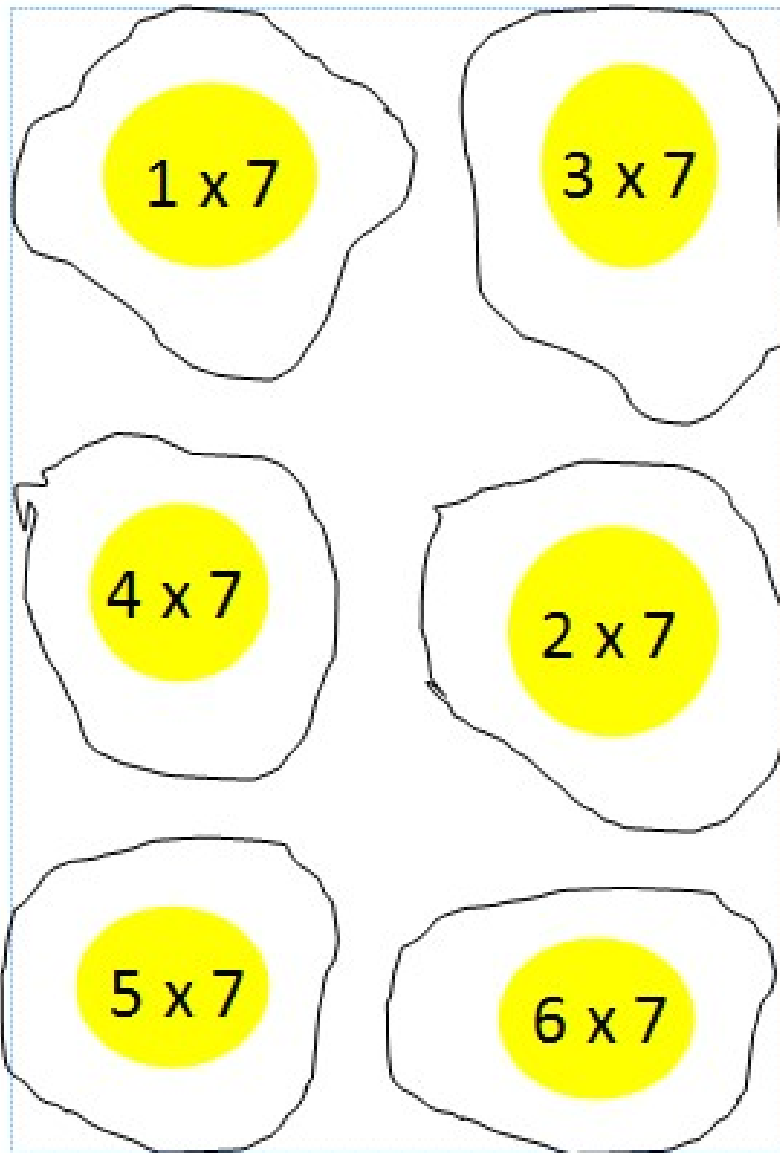
What are nine sixes? **How many** sixes are in 42?

What's six **times** four? What's forty-eight **divided** by six?

Three **multiplied** by six? Six times what equals sixty?

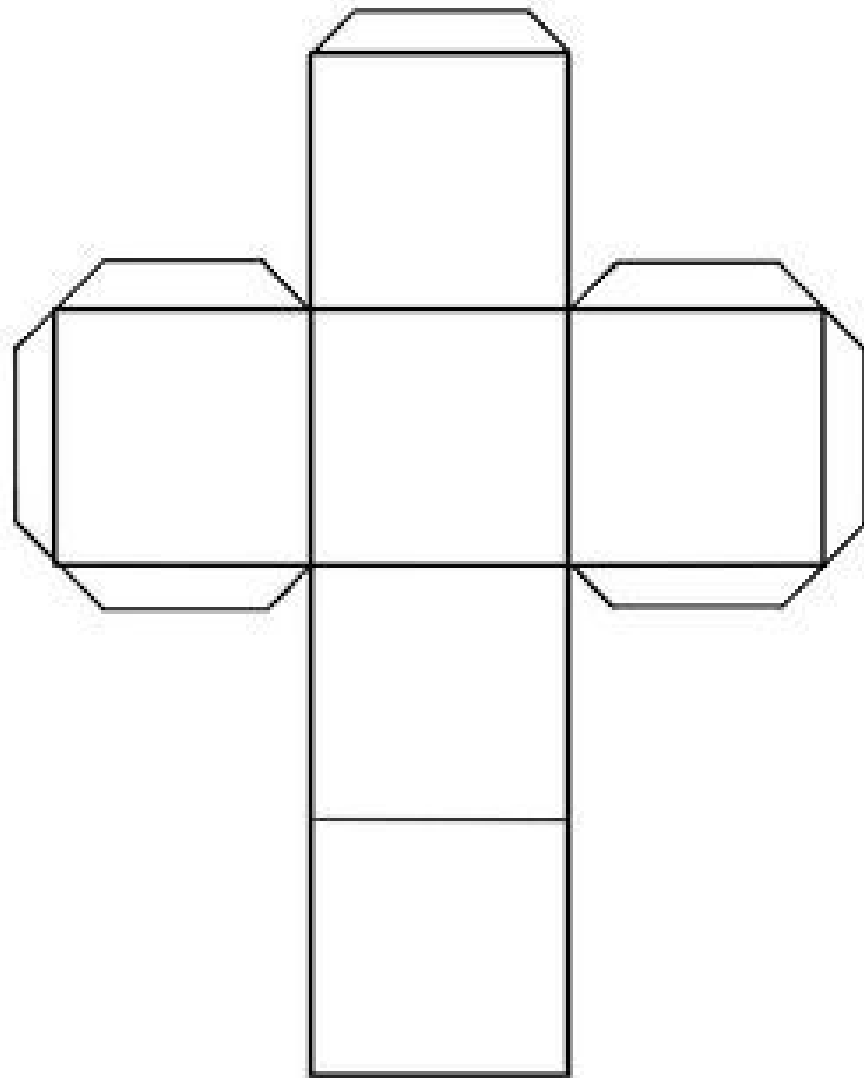
Five **lots of** four?

How many times does 3 **go into** 12?

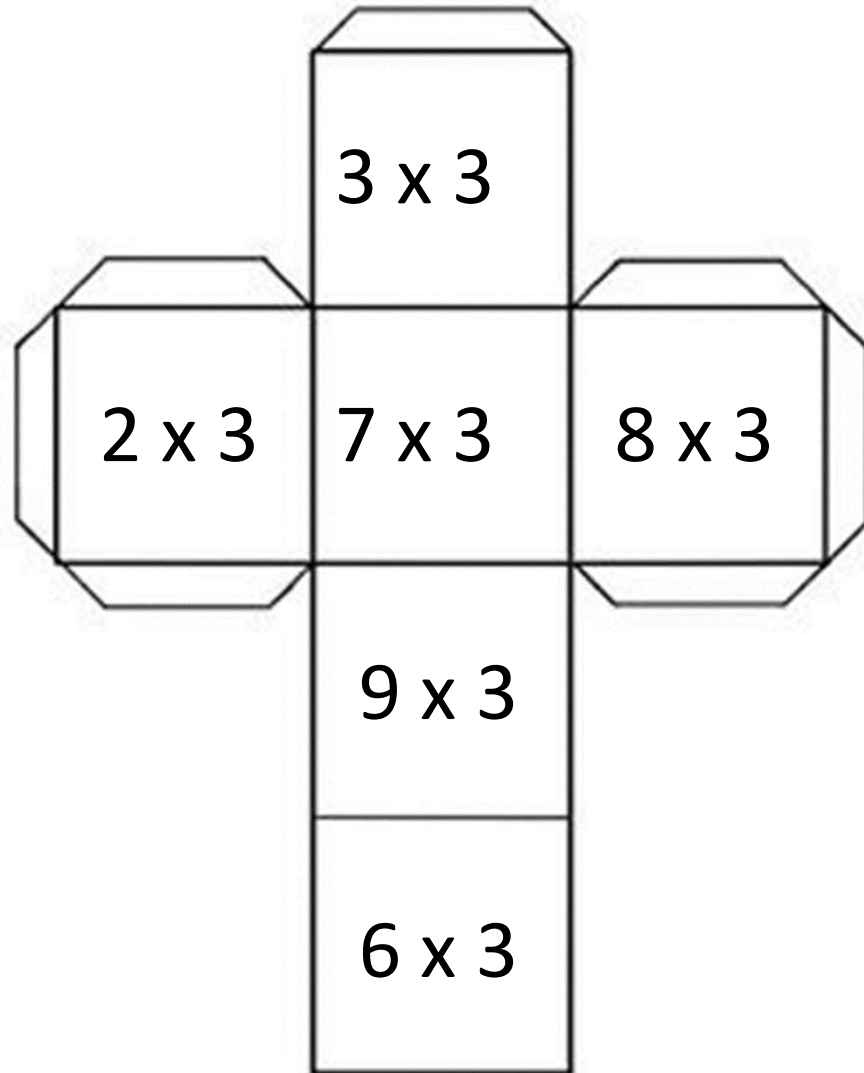


Try this egg-flip game. Decide which times-table you will work on. Choose some tricky ones and write them on the 'eggs'. Cut them out. Use a fish slice or spatula to turn them over when you have learnt them.

Cut out a dice shape. Write a tricky times-table sum on each square. Carefully fold along all the lines, then make into a dice shape and glue together. Take turns to throw the dice and see who can answer the times-able question.



Here's an example with the 3 times table questions. I have included a couple of easy ones as well as the tricky ones.



- $1 \times 3$
- $2 \times 3$
- $3 \times 3$
- $4 \times 3$
- $5 \times 3$
- $6 \times 3$
- $7 \times 3$
- $8 \times 3$
- $9 \times 3$
- $10 \times 3$



You can make your own flashcards and cut them out and stick them on the fridge. Or you can use pegs and string to hang them up.

$0 \times 3 =$

$1 \times 3 =$

$2 \times 3 =$

$3 \times 3 =$

$4 \times 3 =$

$5 \times 3 =$

$6 \times 3 =$

$7 \times 3 =$

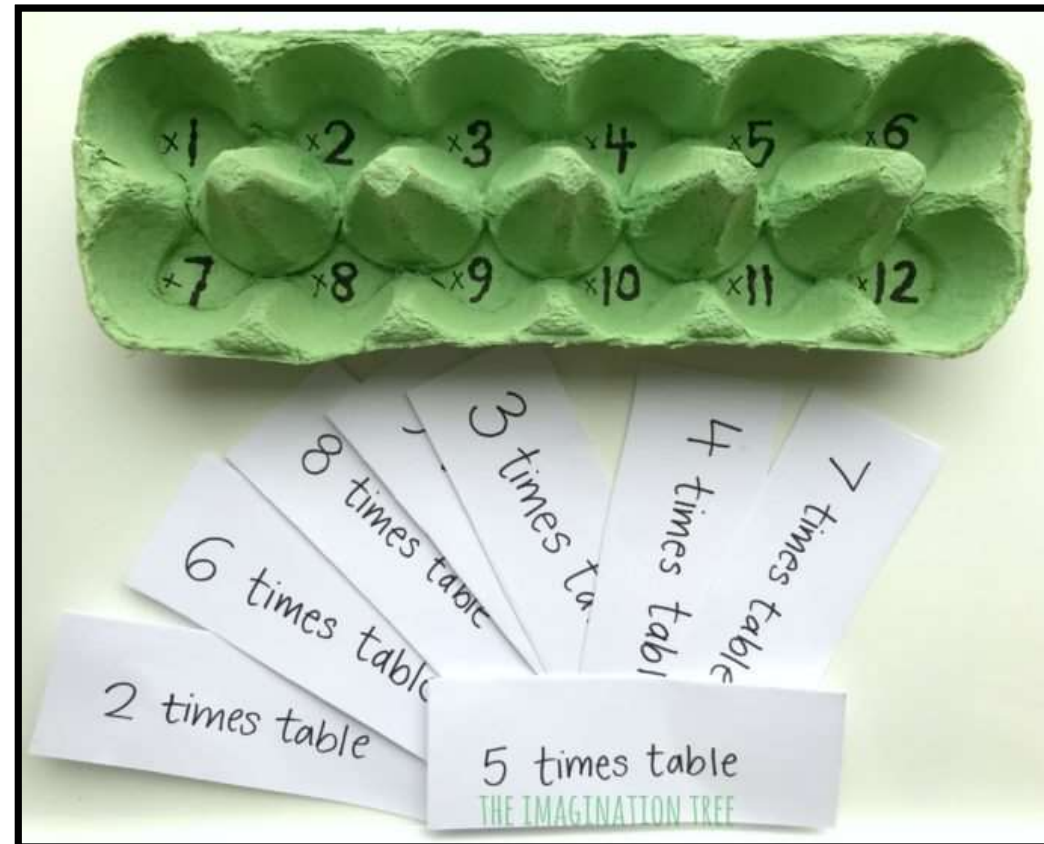
$8 \times 3 =$

Play a bingo game. You will need to work out the answers first! You could make some answer cards to match, or just call out the answers and see if your child knows the correct question.

Number sentence board: children match the number cards to the number sentences on this board.

$1 \times 8 =$	$3 \times 8 =$	$8 \times 8 =$
$9 \times 8 =$	$6 \times 8 =$	$10 \times 8 =$

Get creative with other ideas, using egg boxes or pegs.



$6 \times 3 =$

$7 \times 2 =$

$11 \times 4 =$

$6 \times 4 =$

$12 \times 3$

$5 \times 6 =$

$10 \times 3$

$8 \times 3 =$

$4 \times 4 =$

Remember to use times-table rockstars. Other websites to try are :

<http://www.maths-games.org/times-tables-games.html>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/topic/times-tables>

<https://www.theparentgameblog.co.uk/2015/04/making-teaching-times-tables-fun.html>