HELPING YOUR CHILD KNOW MULTIPLES OF A GIVEN NUMBER

SUPPORTING THE JOURNEY FROM OWL TO PARROT

At school, we help children learn their multiples in a deep and connected way.

OWL – I UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS.

Multiples are the numbers you get when you multiply a number by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and so on.

They follow a repeating pattern.

PARROT – I CAN RECALL MY MULTIPLES QUICKLY AND CONFIDENTLY.

I know my multiples instantly.

I see patterns and use them to solve problems!

WHAT ARE MULTIPLES?

Multiples of a number are the products when you multiply that number by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5...

Example: Multiples of 4

$4 \times 1 = 4$ $4 \times 2 = 8$ $4 \times 3 = 12$ $4 \times 4 = 16$ ...

So the multiples of 4 are:

4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, ...

These numbers are all in the 4 times table.

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?

- They help children see number patterns.
- They support times table fluency.
- They are useful for problem solving in real life (e.g. sharing, measuring, counting in steps).
- They build confidence with numbers.

EXAMPLES OF MULTIPLES FOR DIFFERENT NUMBERS

MULTIPLES OF 2	MULTIPLES OF 3	MULTIPLES OF 5	MULTIPLES OF 6	MULTIPLES OF 10
$2 \times 1 = 2$	$3 \times 1 = 3$	$5 \times 1 = 5$	$6 \times 1 = 6$	$10 \times 1 = 10$
$2 \times 2 = 4$	$3 \times 2 = 6$	$5 \times 2 = 10$	$6 \times 2 = 12$	$10 \times 2 = 20$
$2 \times 3 = 6$	$3 \times 3 = 9$	$5 \times 3 = 15$	$6 \times 3 = 18$	$10 \times 3 = 30$
$2 \times 4 = 8$	$3 \times 4 = 12$	$5 \times 4 = 20$	$6 \times 4 = 24$	$10 \times 4 = 40$
$2 \times 5 = 10$	$3 \times 5 = 15$	$5 \times 5 = 25$	$6 \times 5 = 30$	$10 \times 5 = 50$
...	...	...	...	...
2, 4, 6, 8, 10, ...	3, 6, 9, 12, 15, ...	5, 10, 15, 20, 25, ...	6, 12, 18, 24, 30, ...	10, 20, 30, 40, 50, ...

Notice the patterns: multiples usually increase by the same amount each time!

HELPFUL STRATEGIES

- Count in steps.
- Use a times table to list multiples.
- Look for patterns in the last digits.
- Use arrays to see the pattern grow.
- Play games and make it fun!

Example (multiples of 3):

1 row	2 rows	3 rows	4 rows
3	6	9	12 ...

REAL LIFE CONNECTIONS

Multiples help us in everyday life:

- Sharing: 12 sweets equally among friends.
- Measuring: 5 cm, 10 cm, 15 cm, 20 cm ...
- Time: Events every 5 minutes – 5 min, 10 min, 15 min ...
- Counting in steps: 2, 4, 6, 8 ... (e.g. jumping, skipping).

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP AT HOME

ENCOURAGE MATHEMATICAL LANGUAGE

Talk about and use key words:

multiple	times	groups of	pattern
steps	sequence	increase	repeat

CELEBRATE PROGRESS

Praise effort and improvement. Small steps lead to big success!

QUICK WAYS TO PRACTISE EVERYDAY

COUNT IN STEPS
Count aloud in steps of the number. E.g. 7, 14, 21, 28 ...

SPOT MULTIPLES
Look for multiples in number lists. E.g. Which numbers are multiples of 3?

TIMES TABLE GAMES
Use dice to make multiplication sentences.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES
Use blocks, beads or objects to build groups and see the pattern.

REAL LIFE CHALLENGES
Spot multiples on clocks, prices, distances and more!

TOP TIPS

- Practise a little and often.
- Make links between facts.
- Use visuals to build understanding.
- Encourage your child to explain their thinking.
- Keep it positive and stress free.
- Be patient and celebrate every success!

©2026 LAAT