**A Curriculum for Excellence**

**How to help your**

**First Level Learner**

**With**

**Numeracy & Mathematics**

St. Mark’s Primary School





Helping your child with

Numeracy & Mathematics

First Level

This leaflet will give you some ideas about how to support your child’s learning in Numeracy & Mathematics in small, fun, practical ways at home.

Please be encouraged to talk to your child about Numeracy & Mathematics; their skills, confidence and fluency can be developed greatly by doing so. We should be encouraging our learners to use the language of Mathematics wherever possible; like learning a foreign language, it needs to be used to become natural.



**Multiplication and Division**

Helping your child to learn multiplication and division facts and regularly going over them will benefit them enormously. They should learn to recite them in order as well as give ‘quickfire’ answers when they are jumbled up (e.g. “What are seven eights?”, “How many nine’s make 81?”). This can be done on car journeys or whenever there is a spare 5 minutes. The focus is on cementing their confidence and knowledge of multiplication and division facts.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| X | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 2 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 18 | 20 |
| 3 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 15 | 18 | 21 | 24 | 27 | 30 |
| 4 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 16 | 20 | 24 | 28 | 32 | 36 | 40 |
| 5 | 5 | 10 | 15 | 20 | 25 | 30 | 35 | 40 | 45 | 50 |
| 6 | 6 | 12 | 18 | 24 | 30 | 36 | 42 | 48 | 54 | 60 |
| 7 | 7 | 14 | 21 | 28 | 35 | 42 | 42 | 56 | 63 | 70 |
| 8 | 8 | 16 | 24 | 32 | 40 | 48 | 56 | 64 | 72 | 80 |
| 9 | 9 | 18 | 27 | 36 | 45 | 54 | 63 | 72 | 81 | 90 |
| 10 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

**Number work at home**

Children’s number skills can be supported in all sorts of fun ways at home. Board games are a great way of making them familiar with the number system and addition and subtraction. Children can really enjoy inventing their own.

Playing cards are also great to use. There are a huge number of games that will encourage children’s number skills.

An important part of children’s learning in maths involves applying their skills to everyday problems and situations. Encouraging them to practise their maths skills in daily life will benefit them enormously. The following questions may give you some ideas:

* *You have 38 Dr Who cards and your brother has 23. How many do you have altogether?*
* *There are 40 books here and we can fit 9 into each box. How many boxes will we need?*
* *It is 570 miles to London. We have done 53 miles, how many left to go?*

# **Shape**

Take your child on a ‘shape walk’ to see what 2D and 3D shapes they can spot in their local environment or further afield. They should also be able to identify different 90 degree angles and lines of symmetry.

**Money**

Get your child to work out holiday spending money by using conversion charts in newspapers to convert pounds to foreign currency.

Give your child an Argos catalogue. Let them go on a ‘fantasy spending spree’. What would they buy with £20 and how much change (if any!) would they have?

**Time**

Make sure that there are both traditional and digital clocks around the house for your child to practise reading the time to the nearest minute.

Use timetables and TV guides that use 24 hour clock times.

Give your child lots of time problems to solve. E.g. “Tea will be 45 minutes. What time will it be ready?” “We will arrive in Edinburgh at 5.30pm, how long will our journey take?”

**Measure**

Cooking is a great way for your child to practise weighing and measuring in grams and kilograms. It’s a terrific way to learn to accurately read scales and measure out capacities in litres and centilitres. Following recipes will also make your child familiar with measurements, with increased confidence encourage estimation of their measures and then check them.

Ask your child to estimate the length and breadth of their bedroom then use materials to check their estimation. Ask them to then use these measurements to calculate the area of their bedroom.

**Useful websites**

Sumdog

Topmarks

[BBC](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/ks1bitesize/numeracy) Bitsized