



## Expressions and Equations

### Home Information Sheet

Second Level (c)



*I can apply my knowledge of number facts to solve problems where an unknown value is represented by a symbol or letter.*

*MNU 2-15a*

*Having explored the need for rules for the order of operations in number calculations, I can apply them when solving simple problems.*

*MTH 2-03c*

Over the next few weeks we are going to be learning to use expressions and equations to:

- Understand the concept of variables, where letters and symbols can represent numbers in expressions or equations.
- Apply the concept of variables in appropriate contexts, e.g. science, technologies
- Know and understand that the order in which operations are carried out may affect the final answer:  
e.g  $(4+3) \times 8 = 56$  whereas  $4 + (3 \times 8) = 28$
- Appreciate that when performing calculations we do not necessarily work from left to right.
- Know that a way of remembering the correct order of calculations is BODMAS (Brackets, Of, Divide, Multiply, Add, Subtract), e.g.  $5 + (3 \times 2)$ : multiply before adding  
 $(10 \div 5) - (4 \div 2)$ : divide first
- Be able to carry out calculations in the correct order by performing the operation(s) in brackets first.

### Here are some ideas of how you can help me at home!

**One calculation, many problems** – Create a sum/equation for your child and ask them to write as many different word problems as they can that are related to the sum/equation. He/she should then write the answers to each problem, remembering to use appropriate units in their answers.

**A, B or C** Ask your child to write five word problems and provide three possible answers, A, B and C, one of which must be correct. He/she must make a note of the correct answers. Use the questions for a quiz at school.

**Here are some websites that you may find useful to use with me!**

<http://www.kidsnumbers.com/x-equals-algebra-game.php>

[www.algebra4children.com/printables.html](http://www.algebra4children.com/printables.html)

<http://www.11plusforparents.co.uk/Maths/algebra5.html>





