

5 Minute Maths Games!

1. "Simon Says!"

Ramp up this traditional game by having kids illustrate the following geometric terms using only their arms: parallel and perpendicular lines; acute, right, and obtuse angles; quarter turn, half turn, three quarter turn (clockwise and anti-clockwise) and 0-, 90-, and 180-degree turns

Challenge: Increase the pace of the commands and see if your children can keep up!

2. 'Round the Block

With 4 or more players:

Stand players in a square. Give one of them a ball and a math challenge that requires a list of responses, such as counting by twos or naming shapes that have right angles. Before the student answers, he passes the ball to the person next to him. Children pass the ball around the square as quickly as they can, and the student must give the answer before the ball comes back to him.

Challenge: When the correct answer is given, the child who has the ball must respond to the next challenge, sending the ball back around the circle in the opposite direction.

With 2 players:

As above but ask a 'quick-fire' question such as a times table or number bond fact.

3. Bouncing Sums

Cover a ball with numbers (use a permanent marker or sticky labels). Throw the ball to your child and have him/ her call out the number that the right thumb touches. Throw to the next child or back to parent, who does the same and then adds that number to the first. Continue for five minutes and record the sum. Each time you play the game, add the sum to a graph. On which day did you reach the highest sum? The lowest?

Challenge: Use fractions, decimals, or a mix of negative and positive integers.

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4. Bang Bang

This game can be played with any number facts including number bonds, times tables, division facts, square numbers, square roots... Two players challenge each other with the third player asking the questions. The quickest player to say the correct answer followed by "bang bang" gets the point. The person with the most points wins.

(We like to stand back-to-back with our 'hand guns' ready to turn in quick-fire cowboy style with the correct answer!)

5. Fizz Buzz

Challenge 1: using multiples of one number and substitute with either 'fizz' or 'buzz'

This game can be played with multiples of any number. Sit in a circle / opposite each other and count up from one. Say "fizz" for all multiples of your chosen number. E.G. for multiples of 5:

1, 2, 3, 4, fizz, 6, 7, 8, 9, fizz, 11, 12, 13, 14, fizz ...

Challenge 2: using two lots of multiples and both 'fizz' and 'buzz'

This game can be played with multiples of any number. Sit in a circle / opposite each other and count up from one. Say "fizz" for all multiples of 3, "buzz" for all multiples of 4 and "fizz buzz" for numbers which are multiples of both 3 and 4. e.g. 1, 2, fizz, buzz, 5, fizz, 7, buzz, fizz, 10, 11, fizz buzz...

6. Race Against the Clock!

This game can be played with any number facts including number bonds, times tables, division facts, ... The player tries to answer as many questions correctly as possible in the time set. This is great to work on focus mental maths areas. Challenge yourself to beat your score from the previous day! **Challenge: Decrease the time allowed.**

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7. Daily Fact Families Challenge!

Choose one known fact to focus on each day. Challenge your child to find all the 'related facts' they know to create a 'fact family'. You can mix up between multiplication and division related facts and additions and subtraction related facts.

E.G. If I know that $6 \times 4 = 24$, I also know:

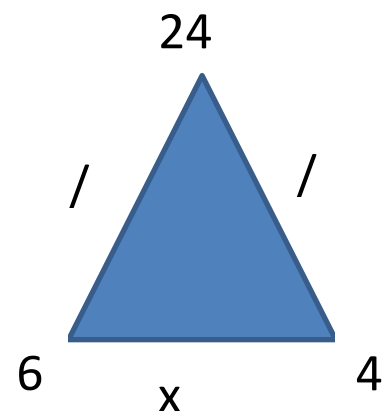
$$6 \times 4 = 24$$

$$4 \times 6 = 24$$

$$24 \div 6 = 4$$

$$24 \div 4 = 6$$

You can draw a triangle to help illustrate.



To Extend:

$$60 \times 4 = 240$$

$$40 \times 6 = 240$$

$$240 \div 60 = 4$$

$$240 \div 40 = 6$$

$$240 \div 4 = 60$$

$$240 \div 6 = 40$$

(discuss how multiplying the 6 by 10 lets us multiply the answer - 24 - by 10 to reach the answer 240)

To Extend Further:

(multiply the answer by 100 this time as both numbers have been multiplied by 10)

$$60 \times 40 = 2400$$

$$40 \times 60 = 2400$$

$$2400 \div 60 = 40$$

$$2400 \div 40 = 60$$

$$2400 \div 40 = 60$$

$$2400 \div 60 = 40$$