



Maths at Home Guidance

How to help with Year 5 Maths



Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached below information about maths with your child at home.

This is the age when knowledge retention really begins to come to the fore, and if you spend just five minutes a day revisiting a few fundamental skills, you'll find that your child can take on new ideas effortlessly. In particular, familiarising your child with negative numbers, reading the time and the times tables (up to the twelve times tables) will stand them in good stead in the future.

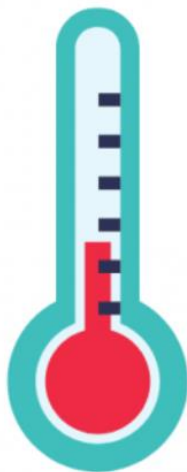
[Maths tip 1: Use negative numbers in context with your Year 5 child](#)

The easiest way to make sense of negative numbers is to watch them in action, and one of the only practical ways you can do this is with temperature.

One idea you can use is to pop an ice cube in a small amount of water and check the temperature together every twenty minutes. Record the results in a table, and as your child notes the temperature dropping lower and lower you can tick off another valuable maths skill.



Check the temperature
every 20 minutes



Bringing in active maths such as this can be a great way to cement learning, and you should find that your child is much more engaged with the topic as a result too!

[Maths tip 2: Get your 9-year-old to read the time, all the time!](#)

Time may go quickly for us adults, but for kids who have grown up predominantly reading the time on phone screens and tablets, analogue clocks look like something from another planet.

You can avoid the confusion by hanging analogue clocks in your home from an early age and modelling reading the time out loud at every opportunity. Practice makes perfect when it comes to telling time, so be patient and keep at it.

Try to remember to ask your child what the time is every time you take a glance up at the clock, as not only will this be a good chance to help them learn how to tell the time, but it might just remind you to get the dinner out of the oven too!

[Maths tip 3: Challenging your Year 5 child with maths at home](#)

Weather permitting, take a walk down to your local bus stop or if the rain is proving too potent, browse train timetables online. (Bonus points if it's a timetable that really applies to your commute or a regular journey!)

Challenge your 9-year-old to work out the difference in time between stops on the route.

Can they find the shortest stop?

The longest one?

How long does the whole route take?

Not only is reading timetables a curriculum requirement, but it's also a skill that is extremely useful in later life. They will have no excuses for missing the bus to college if they have been taught how to read timetables properly!

Please also look on the maths page of the school website for KS2 videos on how to support with the four calculations and games to play at home.