

# HOME LEARNING GUIDE

## YEARS 3 AND 4

### Maths Activities

Children who have recall of number bonds and facts for all numbers to twelve, make better progress than those who don't. When learning table facts try writing them out on separate pieces of paper - get your child to remove the one that is easiest to remember, then read them making sure that they can recall the one they have removed. Take one more away each time. Rearrange the pieces of paper and get them to put them back in order.

Try the following to help them learn:

Roll two dice multiply the answer.

Relate multiplication to division.



Children need to have visual images to help develop their maths. Providing them with objects to help them is not 'cheating', and it is when children move away from using objects too quickly that they can start to have difficulties. Learning number bonds by using objects and splitting them into different groups of two or grouping and sharing a number of objects supports children in learning bonds and multiplication facts.

Refer to our calculation policy for more guidance and support.

### Reading

We continue to encourage children to read by giving them books to take home to read with their parents. Unless a child is experiencing a specific difficulty, we do not hear children read individually but as part of a guided group. Preparing for guided reading is an important part of home learning. The focus is developing comprehension skills (reading for meaning) and giving children the opportunity to discuss the texts. This includes providing children opportunities to:

- ⇒ Talk about the cover of a book and why they have chosen it.
- ⇒ Talk about characters. Who? Why did they do that? What do you think they will do next? Why do you like or not like the character? Describe them. What is the characters strongest/weakest trait?
- ⇒ Predict story lines and link earlier and later events in stories.
- ⇒ Enjoy the language.
- ⇒ Talk about their response to a book - did they enjoy it - why?



### Enjoy books and stories



It is really important that children still enjoy plenty of opportunities to have stories and books read to them. This gives children the opportunity to hear and discuss unfamiliar words, talk about a wider range of characters and discuss more complex storylines than in the reading scheme books which match their reading capability. Children should also be encouraged to read a wide variety of texts, fiction, nonfiction, comics and signs.

### Maths Rich Environments

Providing an environment where children can make links with, and use and apply the maths they do in school will also support learning. Try some of the following:

- Board games there are plenty available which will help children learn number facts and bonds along with card games.
- Clocks with hands - help children to understand the passing of time rather than just reading it - how long until?
- Money - let them pay for things and check the amount of change they are given
- Fractions - use the language when you can
- Cooking - counting, weighing and measuring

Remember that children learn best when they are doing!

