

Ideas for games and hands-on-ways to learn multiplication facts.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/22-fun-hands-on-ways-to-teach-multiplication/>

PDF activity booklets that can be printed off for free.

[https://www.stem.org.uk/system/files/elibrary-resources/legacy\\_files\\_migrated/24628-Multiplication%20pack%201.pdf](https://www.stem.org.uk/system/files/elibrary-resources/legacy_files_migrated/24628-Multiplication%20pack%201.pdf)

Free website with practical activities for children to learn their multiplication facts

<https://www.prodigygame.com/main-en/blog/multiplication-games/#easy>

These hands-on examples are easy to prepare and play.

### **True or false?**

children have a 50/50 chance of getting the correct answer.

#### **Materials:**

Double-sided True or False cards

#### **Steps:**

Split into teams and give each team a true or false card.

Write a multiplication sentence that's either true or false on the board

Give the teams one minute to discuss their answer.

On your signal, each team holds up their cards at the same time to reveal their "true" or "false" response. Every correct team gets a point.

The team with the most points after 10 questions (or as many as you want) wins.

### **Beach ball toss**

Pass around a "multiplication beach ball" to make your session feel like a day at the beach. It's easy, active and engaging, and can help children to learn multi-digit numbers multiplication.

#### **Materials:**

Oversized inflatable beach ball

Permanent marker

#### **Steps:**

Write various multiplication questions on an inflated beach ball.

In an open area, have the students stand in a big circle.

After the child catches the ball, they read the question that is closest to their right 'pinky' finger.

The entire class says the answer together and the ball is passed to the next person.

### **Bingo**

A twist on the classic game that gets kids involved and builds knowledge of multiplication facts.

#### **Materials:**

Bingo cards

Bingo dabbers or chips

Chalkboard or whiteboard (plus chalk or markers)

#### **Steps:**

Cut out the problem cards and place them in a bowl or hat.

Give out Bingo cards.

Choose a designated "caller".

The caller chooses a card from the hat, announces it and writes it on the board.

Child to solve the problem and mark their card if the product is on it.

When a player gets five numbers together in any direction, they can call out "bingo." The first player to get a bingo wins the game.

### **Card multiplication games**

Card decks may be your most valuable investment for games because they offer so many possibilities. Most can be adapted to any math material.

Here are some fun ways you can use card games for multiplication practice.

## War

This version of the standard favourite involves each player flipping two cards to find a product. It's great practice for strengthening core skills by multiplying numbers as quickly as possible.

### **Materials:**

Card decks

Blank paper and pencils (for scoring)

### **Steps:**

The game is simple, two players draw a card from a deck. They then flip their cards over and the first person to correctly guess the total of the two cards multiplied together gets to put the cards in their winning pile. For example, if a 3 of hearts and a 7 of diamonds are flipped over, the first person who says 21 gets to keep the two cards. The person with the most cards in their winning pile at the end of the game wins.

*Tip: Remove high value cards to make the game easier.*

## Spiral

Turn card decks into game boards with a multiplication game that twists and turns. Players multiply dice values with card values and compete to reach the center of the spiral first.

### **Materials:**

Card decks

Game pieces

Dice

### **Steps:**

Split into two teams and give each group a card deck.

Tell players to arrange the cards in a spiral for their game board.

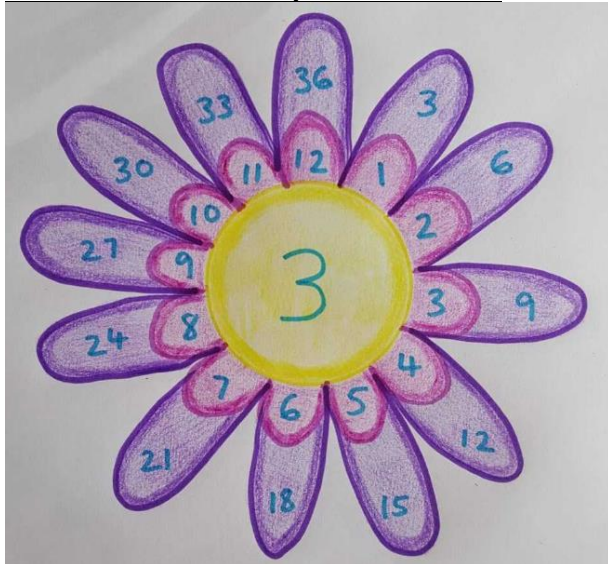
Players take turns rolling the dice and moving their game pieces around the board.

When a player lands on a card, they must multiply the value of their die with the value of the card. The other players will "fact check" their answer. If they're correct, they stay where they are. If they're incorrect, they move back to the previous position.

The first player to get to the card at the centre of the spiral wins.

Other rules can be added to make the game more interesting. For example, if a player rolls a double (where the value of the die and card are the same), they get an extra turn.

## Draw a Waldorf multiplication flower



One for the creative kids. Children start this activity by drawing the centre of the flower, in which they write a number between 2 and 12. They then draw 12 petals around the centre, with each petal containing the numbers 1 through 12. The last step is to draw another set of 12 petals which contain the centre number multiplied by each petal in the inner circle.

# Four-in-a-Row

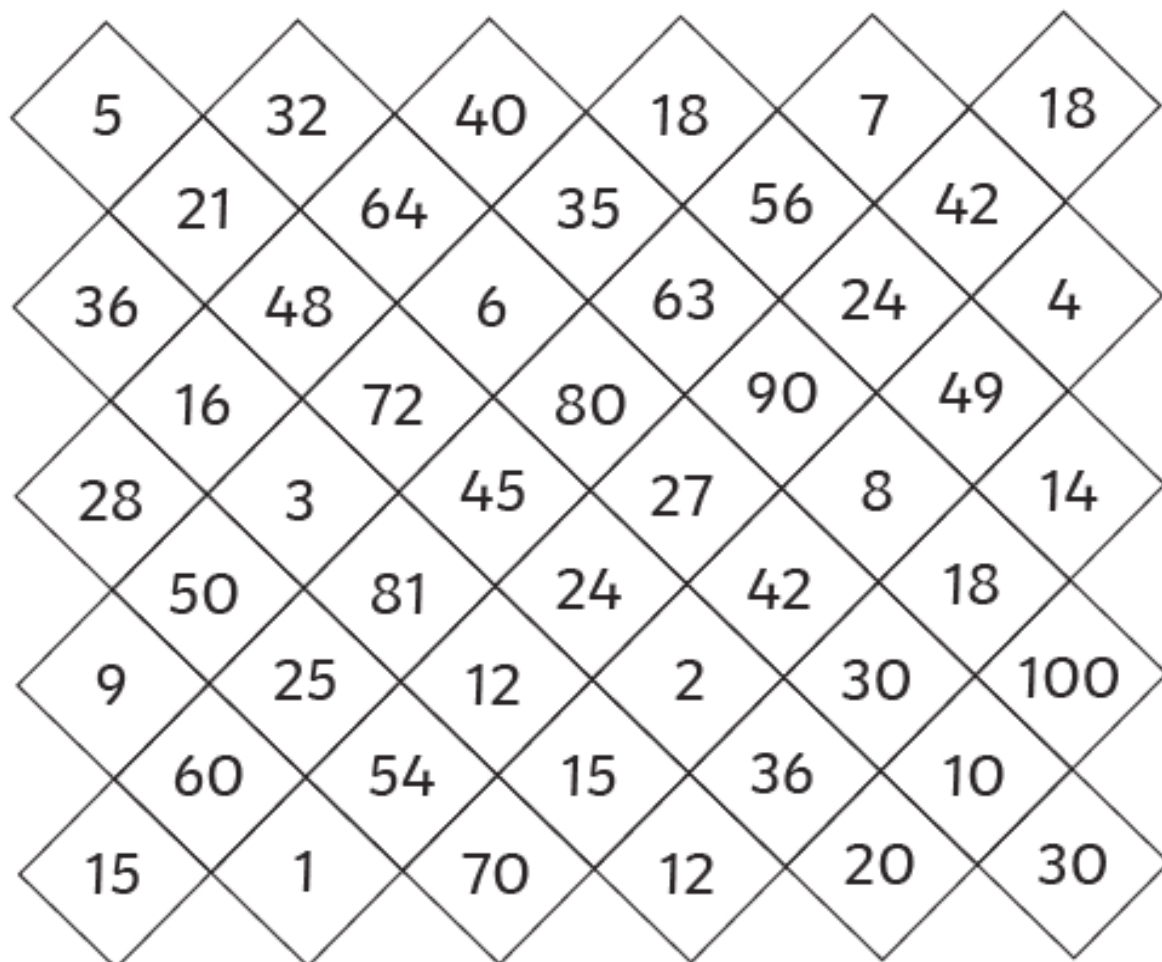
Multiplication up to  $10 \times 10$

You will need:

Players: 2

- 2 dice (1 to 10)
- a different coloured crayon for each player

- 1) Roll the two dice and multiply the two numbers.
- 2) Then, find the answer on the grid and colour it in your chosen colour to 'claim it'.
- 3) If an answer has already been claimed, play passes to the next player.
- 4) Continue play until a player gets four-in-a-row, diagonally, to win the game.



# How Many Boxes?

Multiplication up to  $10 \times 10$

You will need:

Players: 1 or 2

- 2 dice (1 to 10)
- a different coloured crayon for each player

- 1) Roll the two dice and multiply the two numbers.
- 2) Then, find the answer on the grid and use your chosen colour to join the dots on one edge of the box.
- 3) The player who joins the dots to draw the final edge to complete the box writes their initials inside to 'claim it'.
- 4) If your answer has already been claimed, play passes to the next player. The winner is the player who 'claims' the most boxes.

