

Time – Suggestions for learning at home

Why learning about time is important?

Time is an essential life skill which will support your children to understand and manage their daily life activities and enable them to engage independently in society. Since time is an abstract concept it is essential that parents use informal references to time on a daily basis. This is an effective way of learning about time and increasing achievement for all children. When parents describe the time of an event, children become aware of various times in their daily lives. e.g., We will go swimming at 3pm today. It will last for 30 minutes.

IDEAS TO SUPPORT LEARNING

- Talk to your child about daily routines
- Ask your child what day/month/season it is
- Talk about times on the clock. Ask “What time is it?”, on a regular basis.
- Display times of activities at home e.g. football training at 6.30pm on Friday.
- Use a calendar at home and record birthdays/ appointments/events on it.
- Discuss how long until their birthday/special occasion.
- Ask your child to retell or sequence parts of a story.
- Time activities e.g. 30 minutes playing games
- Highlight times allowed for cooking or baking e.g. the bread will take 30 minutes to bake.
- Encourage your child to look up times for the cinema. What time does the film start? What time will it be over?
- Use counting on strategy to calculate times: The bread will be baked in 30 minutes. It is 5.45pm now so it will be ready at 6.15pm.
- Use bus/train timetables: At what time will the next bus come? Is there a pattern between bus times?
- Involve your child when planning trips or holidays.
- Engage your child in fun activities where you time tasks e.g., how many skips can you do in 1 minute? How many blocks can you stack in 60 seconds?



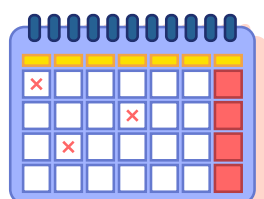
BOOKS

- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle (5–8 year olds)
- *The Bad-Tempered Ladybird* by Eric Carle (5–8 year olds)
- *Pigs on a Blanket* by Amy Axelrod (5–8 year olds)
- *What time is it Mr. Crocodile?* by Judy Sierra (5–8 year olds)
- *Once there were Giants* by martin Waddell (Aged 7+)
- *My Great Grandpa* by Martin Waddell (Aged 7+)
- *Game time* by Stuart J. Murphy (Aged 7+)
- *A Second is a Hiccup* by Hazel Hutchins (Aged 7+)
- *Clocks and More Clocks* by Pat Hutchins (8–11 year olds)
- *It's About Time* by Pascale Estellon (8–11 year olds)
- *Just a Second: A Different Way to Look at Time* by Steve Jenkins (8–11 year olds)

* Your local library provides a wide range of free books and resources which support in developing children's mathematical learning

GAMES / ACTIVITIES

- Time reward cards: Pick one from a jar, e.g. 20 minutes play time
- Timed activities e.g. 10 minutes reading
- Bake buns. 20 minutes in the oven
- Charades (All ages)
- Articulate (Aged +7)
- Pictionary (Aged +7)
- The Cube board game (8+)
- Make a monthly family calendar and display



WEBSITES

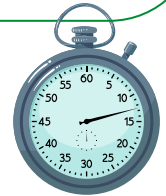
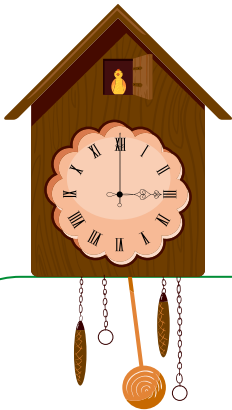
- <https://nzmaths.co.nz/time-units-work>
- <https://www.scoilnet.ie/go-to-primary/theme-pages/mathematics/its-about-time>

*Useful terms to search online: primary, learning, time, maths, hours, minutes, problems



ARTS AND CRAFTS

- Design and make a monthly family calendar
- Make a homemade sand timer
- Make an analogue clock using homemade materials
- Make time bingo cards
- Make a flower clock



YOUR OWN IDEAS

