



Maths

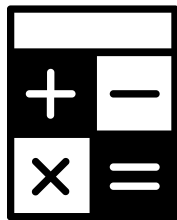
Expectations

What will I learn in year 4?

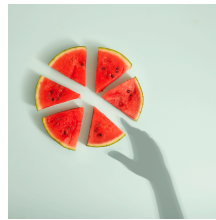
Place Value



Calculations



Fractions



Shape and Measures



Time



What will I do?

In Year 4, your child will become more confident with larger numbers, faster recall of number facts, and more complex problem-solving. They'll continue building on the skills from earlier years, with a strong focus on fluency, reasoning, and using maths in real-life situations.

A key goal this year is mastering all the multiplication tables up to 12×12 . Regular practice helps children build quick recall, which supports many other areas of maths, from division to fractions and area. Children will learn to use multiplication and division facts to solve increasingly tricky problems, including two-step word problems that require logic and careful working out.

Place value skills will grow, as children learn to work with numbers up to 10,000. They'll be able to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100, or 1,000, and count forwards and backwards in steps of powers of 10. They'll also explore negative numbers in simple contexts, such as temperatures below zero.

Addition and subtraction continue to be practised using four-digit numbers, both mentally and with formal written methods. Children will be expected to solve multi-step problems and check their answers using estimation or inverse operations.

Fractions and decimals become a bigger part of the curriculum in Year 4. Children will learn to count in hundredths, understand the relationship between fractions and decimals, and begin comparing and rounding decimals, especially those linked to money and measurements. They'll recognise and work with equivalent fractions and find fractions of quantities using practical methods.

In measurement, children will learn to convert between different units—such as centimetres and metres, or hours and minutes. They'll calculate the perimeter of shapes and begin learning about area as the space inside a shape. Time remains an important skill, including telling the time using a 12- and 24-hour clock and solving problems involving time intervals.

In geometry, your child will describe and classify shapes by their properties, including types of angles and lines. They'll identify lines of symmetry and reflect simple shapes. Position and direction will include plotting points on a grid and using coordinates in the first quadrant.

Finally, in statistics, children will present and interpret data using bar charts and line graphs. They'll learn how to draw and read charts accurately and use the data to answer questions.

By the end of Year 4, your child will have a stronger sense of number, improved fluency with times tables, and more confidence in solving maths problems across different topics.

How can you help?

You play a vital role in helping your child grow in confidence and enjoyment with maths. There are many simple and fun ways you can support their learning at home – no special equipment needed!

Make Times Tables Practice a Daily Habit

Year 4 children are expected to know all their times tables up to 12×12 —and fast recall makes a big difference across maths. Regular, short bursts of practice can really help. Use apps, songs, flashcards, or even quiz them in the car or at dinner. Just 5 minutes a day can go a long way.

Talk About Real-Life Maths

Bring maths into everyday conversations. Ask your child to help work out how long something will take (“We leave at 3:15 and it takes 40 minutes—what time will we get there?”) or estimate the cost of shopping. These small moments help children see that maths has real meaning.

Use Practical Fractions and Decimals

Use cooking to talk about fractions (like half a cup or a quarter of a pizza) and involve your child when dealing with prices and money to explore decimals. It's a great way to connect classroom learning to the real world.

Play Games That Involve Logic and Number

Games like Times Tables Rock Stars, Hit the Button, or traditional board games such as Yahtzee or Monopoly are brilliant for developing number fluency, problem-solving, and strategic thinking—all key Year 4 skills.

Explore Shape and Space Together

Look for shapes and angles in the world around you—road signs, buildings, even packaging. Ask questions like: "Is that an acute or obtuse angle?" or "How many lines of symmetry do you see?" This helps reinforce geometry in a fun and visual way.

Encourage Estimating and Checking

Get your child to make reasonable estimates—whether it's the number of sweets in a jar, the weight of a bag of flour, or the cost of a few items at the shop. Then check the actual answer. It helps build number sense and confidence in mental maths.

Keep Maths Positive

Your attitude toward maths matters. Try to avoid saying things like "I was never good at maths" and instead encourage a growth mindset. Praise effort and persistence, not just correct answers. Let your child explain their thinking—even if they get it wrong at first, talking it through helps understanding grow.

Most importantly, keep it positive! Let your child see that making mistakes is part of learning and that maths can be fun, useful, and all around us. Thank you for being such an important part of your child's learning journey.

Mrs Hopkins, Maths Coordinator