

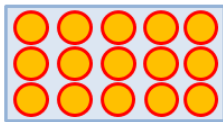
THE NUMERACY NOOK

Hello everyone—Here is a Numeracy Nook aimed towards the Year 2/3 classrooms

As your child progresses through their early years of schooling they will learn the concept of multiplication. Some of the language we use when talking about **multiplication** includes:

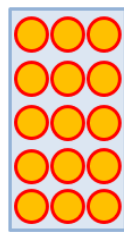
- Lots of
- Groups of
- Arrays

An array is a good way to begin to learn about multiplication and is a key concept for learning times tables. These can be made with objects e.g. counters or drawn on paper. When you cook cupcakes or muffins at home with your child, the tin can represent an array.



3 rows of 5

$$3 \times 5$$



5 rows of 3

$$5 \times 3$$

Plenty of practise with arrays leads to development of the **Commutative Property**, that is $3 \times 5 = 5 \times 3$. Help your child to make the link to multiplication by saying, "If you know that $3 \times 5 = 15$, you also know that $5 \times 3 = 15$. This almost halves the number of facts to be learned and lays the foundation for division and larger multiplication.

Some other suggestions are:

- Use everyday household items to practice simple multiplication e.g. "We have 4 lots of 2 shoes, How many shoes do we have altogether?" "Let's count by 2 to find out."
- Check that your child can count by multiples of **2, 3, 5** and **10** e.g. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24

You can also help your child to learn new facts from known facts e.g. I know that $10 \times 2 = 20$ and another 2 is 22, so $11 \times 2 = 22$

Another good strategy to teach your child is the **Doubling Strategy**. This links double addition facts to multiplication facts e.g. Double $2 = 4$, $2 \times 2 = 4$

Please do not hesitate to contact your classroom teacher at any time for further assistance.

From the FLDC Mathematics Team