



Big Maths

A Guide for Parents



Big Maths is a teaching programme used at Maesybryn to help children to become numerate. Problem solving and word problems cannot be solved until children can manipulate and understand how numbers work. Big Maths lessons are fast, fun and furious.

Children work on whiteboards and 'flash' answers to their teachers and the pace of the lesson is quite exhausting. We need to pass on the pressure to work at pace and have maths facts instantly available, rather than counting on fingers.

The children are introduced to child-friendly terms such as 'Switchers' and 'Learn Its', to help them manipulate numbers and make them more confident and more successful.

CLIC Sessions

This stands for '**C**ounting', '**L**earn Its', '**I**t's Nothing New' and '**C**alculation'. Maths lessons contain each of these elements.

COUNTING

Children will count forwards, backwards, in steps of 3 6 or 25, read and write numbers and in multiples. When practising counting at home with your children, make sure you go backwards and forwards. Don't always start at 0 - make sure they can count on from 75 to 106 for example.



LEARN ITS'

Learn Its are addition facts and times tables facts. There are 72 Learn Its in total. 36 addition Learn Its and 36 multiplication Learn Its. These are facts that children need to learn off by heart, so when they are asked 'What is 6+4 ?' they are able to give the answer as quickly as they would be able to tell you their name. As soon as they know $3 \times 5 = 15$ they also know $5 \times 3 = 15$ (This is known as a 'Switcher')

'Learn Its' by Year Group

- ✓ Reception - Doubles of 1, 2,3,4,5, and $2+1 = 3$ and $2+3 = 5$
- ✓ Year 1 - Doubles of 6,7,8,9, and numbers which make 10 ($2+8$, $7+3$)
- ✓ Year 2- Remainder of 1 digit + 1 digit facts (eg $9+7=16$)
- ✓ Year 3 - focus on $\times 3$ $\times 4$ $\times 9$ tables facts
- ✓ Year 4 - the six remaining facts (6×6 , 6×7 , 6×8 , 7×7 , 7×8 , 8×8 ,) and 36 Addition Learn Its
- ✓ Year 5 and 6 - all 72 Learn Its.

Your child's teacher will select the Learn Its for your child to work on at home. Please support you child to make sure they really **do** know their Learn Its and their Switchers with INSTANT RECALL (no fingers!)

Addition Learn Its

+	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	4							
3	5	6						
4	6	7	8					
5	7	8	9	10				
6	8	9	10	11	12			
7	9	10	11	12	13	14		
8	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
9	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18

Reception
Year 1
Year 2

Multiplication Learn Its

X	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
2	4							
3	6	9						
4	8	12	16					
5	10	15	20	25				
6	12	18	24	30	36			
7	14	21	28	35	42	49		
8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	
9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81

Reception - Counting in 10s, 5s and 2s
Year 1 - Counting in 10s, 5s and 2s
Year 2 - $\times 2$, $\times 5$, $\times 10$
Year 3 - $\times 3$, $\times 4$, $\times 9$
Year 4 - $\times 6$, $\times 7$, $\times 8$

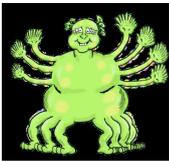
BIG MATHS BEAT THAT

Big Maths Beat That is a weekly timed test of your child's Learn Its. The aim is to improve their score by one each time. You can help your child to improve their scores, by asking them to give you instant responses to their Learn Its while at home, the journey to school and throughout the day at weekend. Little and very often is the key to success, so the information enters the long term memory.

$4 + 2 = 6$	$2 + 8 = 10$	$3 + 7 = 10$
$5 + 2 = 7$	$1 + 9 = 10$	$6 + 6 = 12$
$5 + 5 = 10$	$9 + 9 = 18$	$4 + 3 = 7$
$8 + 8 = 16$	$4 + 6 = 10$	$6 + 2 = 8$
$6 + 3 = 9$	$7 + 7 = 14$	$5 + 3 = 8$
$9 + 2 = 11$	BIG MATHS... BEAT THAT!	$7 + 2 = 9$

IT'S NOTHING NEW

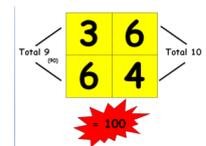
This is the most important aspect of CLIC - the way children become successful and properly numerate. Ideas such as 5things and 3things are always 8things. If we then change the 'thing' to tens for example. 5 tens + 3 tens = 8 tens. Children will count in bananas, aliens, cats etc. to lead into this. It becomes much easier to use amounts and measures such as ml, m, Pim the Alien is used to reinforce this concept.



The idea is that the learning is nothing new - children find being told this means they feel able to answer the questions with real understanding. If a child knows double 4, they can use that to find double 40 with confidence.

Strange phrases such as 'Jigsaw Numbers', 'Smile Multiplication' and 'Where's Mully?' are all part of this section of Big Maths

Jigsaw numbers are a way of adding pairs of numbers to equal 100, decimals equal to 1.0



Smile Multiplication 😊

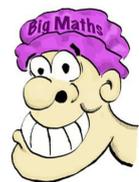
$30 \times 80 = 2400$

24

- Do the tables bit
- Count the zeros in the question
- Put the zeros on your answer!

Smile Multiplication - is used for multiplying multiples of 10
eg. 40×6

'Where's Mully?' is a game that is played to help children master division, which is traditionally the most challenging of the four operations. He hides behind numbers in a number square and the children have to find him. The word division is never used! eg. He's hiding behind the biggest multiple of 3 without going over 40 - he's on 39



CALCULATION

This aspect of CLIC is when the teacher will work on developing the class' progress and understanding of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Big Maths clearly maps out which steps children should do in a clear order and helps teachers to identify where to go back to if a child is struggling.

Big Maths is a very useful tool to help children become numerate... but we still need your support at home.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

- Help your child practice their Learn Its at home - a few minutes day is all you need. Make it fun !
- Insist that numbers are written the correct way round
- Congratulate your child if their Big Maths score goes up.
- Make maths a positive experience (don't tell your child you were rubbish at maths when you were at school - they will think they should be!)



Thank you for taking the time to read this information booklet.

If you have any questions or concerns please see your child's class teacher.

Many thanks

Mrs. Williams & Key Stage 2 staff