

Shape Unit 1

Short Mental Workouts

The short activities suggested below do not have to be done at the beginning of your maths lesson. They are suitable for doing at any time of the day to provide ongoing revision of important mental and oral skills.

While there probably is not time during your maths lesson for these activities, it is crucial to regularly rehearse these skills. You decide when to use them, perhaps at the beginning of the day for 'morning maths', as you line up for lunch, or as a 'brain-break' during the afternoon.

If an image is suggested, you can find it on the sheet(s) below and/or use the link (beginning <https://wrht.org.uk/...>) to find it, and other related generic materials.

Day 1

Subtraction facts

Shuffle a pack of 1–20 or 1–30 cards and hold one up. Children subtract the number from 20 and make the answer using a number fan as quickly as they can. Repeat briskly for each card.

Day 2

Add multiples of 10

In pairs, children shuffle a set of 10s cards (10 to 90) and spread them out face down on the table. On the count of three, they each turn over a card. The first to say the total wins both cards. Keep playing until only one card is left; the fastest player to double this one wins it! The child with the most cards wins this round. Repeat as time allows. Vary by playing with a set of 100s cards in the same way.

Day 3

Multiply/ divide by 10

Display a Place Value grid (*see resources*). Children quickly sketch a copy on whiteboards. *Write digits in the correct columns to show 460. Now show me the answer to 10×460 .* Remind children how the digits move one place to the left when we multiply a number by 10 and that we needed to write a 0 in the 1s column to 'hold' the empty place. Repeat for $460 \div 10$. *What happened to the zero?*

Repeat for other multiples of 10, e.g. 90, 170, 200, 280, 740 and 400.

Day 4

Compare pairs of numbers with 2 decimal places

Children play in pairs. They write $\square\square.\square\square > \square\square.\square\square$. Children then take turns to roll a 0–9 dice to generate digits, deciding where to place each one in the inequality to make it true. *Did it work?* Repeat.

Day 5

Division fact bingo for 8x table

Quickly chant the 8 times table from 0×8 to 12×8 . Children choose nine numbers from 0 to 12 to write on their whiteboards in a 3 by 3 grid. Call out multiples of 8 from 0 to 96 in a random order. Children divide them by 8. If they have the answer on their whiteboards, they ring it. The first to ring all 9 answers wins.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

100

99

98

97

96

95

94

93

92

91

90

89

88

87

86

85

84

83

82

81

80

79

78

77

76

75

74

73

72

71

70

Place value grid

1000s	100s	10s	1s

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

80 79 78 77 76 75 74 73 72 71 70 69 68 67 66 65 64 63 62 61 60 59 58 57 56 55 54 53 52 51