Times Table RockStars Guide

Why is learning Times Tables important?

As you know, learning multiplication and division facts are key fundamentals of mathematics and are used and applied to so many other areas of maths; knowing these facts will help children to make progress in their learning. The National Curriculum expectations are that children should know all these facts by the end of Year 4. We appreciate that this is a hard task for some children so Rockstars is yet another tool to help them achieve this.

What is Rockstars?

Rockstars is a website where children take on the role of a Rockstar - their Avatar. They give their Rockstar a name, decide what they are going to look like and of course, choose which instrument they are going to play.

How do the children practise their tables?

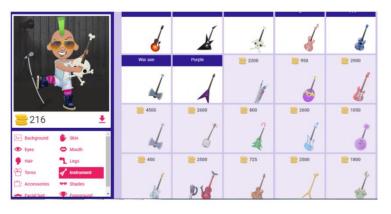
Once they log in, there are different ways in which they can practise their times tables. Your child's teacher might have set up specific times tables for them to focus on which will be highlighted when they log in or it might be set up for children to be able to practise all of the tables up to 12×12 .

When they play in the 'Garage' or 'Arena', they will be solely focusing on the tables set by their teacher. In the 'Studio', 'Festival, and 'Rock Slams', they can practise all their times tables. The children can practise independently by trying to improve their speed and accuracy.

If they fancy playing competitively, they can compete against other children from around the world in the 'Festival'. Additionally, in the 'Arena', they can play against other children in their Year Group. The 'RockSlam' area is where children can choose another peer in their Year Group to challenge! Additionally, sometimes teachers may set 'Rock Battles' where children can compete against other year groups, for example there may be a battle between Year 3 and Year 4 as to who can earn the most points over a week's period.

What rewards do they get for playing?

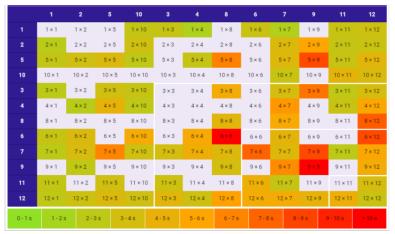
Each time the children practise or compete, they gain credits which are used in leader boards but they can also use these to 'buy' new accessories for their avatar.



Additionally, every few weeks, teachers will award those who make the most progress in learning their times tables.

How do they know if they are making progress?

There are a number of tools on this platform which allow children, parents and teachers to see how they are progressing. They can view and compare their initial baseline speed to how



fast they are now and continue to strive to improve this.

Also, by using colours, it show which tables they are confident with in green and the tables which need more practise in red.

How do children access Rockstars?

Rockstars is available through any Web Browser at: www.ttrockstars.com but can also be accessed through the app on a mobile, ipad or tablet.

- To download the free app on to an Apple device please do so through the Apple Store or at: http://tinyurl.com/ttrsios
- To download the free app on to an Android device please go to: http://tinyurl.com/ttrsandroid
- To access Rockstars using a Kindle device then download the app by searching for 'Times Table Rockstars' in the Amazon App store or via the Amazon website.

Please let us know if you are having any technically difficulties as we will be happy to try and help.

How do they log in?

Rockstars is available from Year 3 to Year 6. In the next few weeks, all children will have been shown this website by their teachers and all children will have username logins in their Reading Diaries / Homework books.

Children will have picked their Rockstar name (as their names are not displayed on the site) and will have begun to play so should be familiar with the site.

