



The Parents' Guide to Mathletics



Welcome to the Parents' Guide to Mathletics. Here you will find an outline of what Mathletics is and what the benefits of using it are. There is also a guide to the basics of using Mathletics, details of how to get parent updates and top tips on how to get the most out of this fantastic resource.

What is Mathletics?

Mathletics is a comprehensive online resource, covering all aspects of mathematics in a fun, engaging and child-friendly manner. Once given a password, children are able to access the resources online, play games, complete curriculum activities and learn new concepts, all in a perfectly safe environment. The site allows children to personalise their learning space and independently choose which activities to focus on, as well as challenging people from around the world and gaining certificates for their efforts.

If all of that sounds too good to be free, it usually is! As a parent, subscription would normally cost £39 but the school has paid for subscription for all children in Years 1-6 meaning you pay nothing!

Why use Mathletics?

- It is a fun and motivating way to practise maths, helping to build children's all important confidence in the subject.
- There are more than 1000 activities on the site catering for all curriculum areas for children aged 5-18 and all of these are available!
- Children are instantly aware of their progress and can access help on areas they are unsure of.
- Mathletics reports back to teachers and parents on children's successes and areas of weakness.
- Children can compete against other children at their level from all over the world in Live Mathletics.
- Children can print off certificates rewarding them for their hard work.

So how does it all work?

This section is divided into sections to act as a quick reference guide to the basics of using Mathletics.

1. Logging In - The start page explained
2. Getting Started - Facemaker, credits and points
3. Live Mathletics
4. Curriculum Activities
5. Extras - Games, Problem Solving, Rainforest Maths, Times Tables Toons & Concept Search!

1. Logging In

To access the site, either go to www.mathletics.co.uk or type 'Mathletics' into a search engine.

Sign In

Rank	Name	School	Score
1	Hassan M	Varsity College, QLD, Australia	11,742
2	Chengxin C	Adrian Covey Catholic College, WA, Australia	11,683
3	Galvin J	Mossburn Public School, NSW, Australia	10,073
4	Galvin D	Our Lady of Peace School, VIC, Australia	10,124
5	Yusuf Z	Stevens College, VIC, Australia	10,075
6	Justin R	St. Mary's Primary School, VIC, Australia	9,980
7	Galvin B	Kelvin High School, WA, Australia	9,933
8	Hiroshi H	St. Columba Primary School, QLD, Australia	8,021
9	Hiroshi H	Te Rapa School, Auckland, New Zealand	8,715
10	Samuel G	Varsity College, QLD, Australia	8,011

On this screen, you will be able to see the current leaderboards for pupils and schools in the UK and across the world, as well as 'Mathlete of the Week'. In the top right hand corner of the page, there is a tab labelled 'Sign In'. Click on this tab to sign in! Your child will have been given their ID and password and if they have forgotten it, their class teacher will be able to print a new one.

2. Getting Started

When children log in for the first time, they will go straight to the 'Facemaker' which allows them to create an on screen character to represent themselves. On the following screens, they will be able to choose characteristics and accessories, giving them ownership of their learning environment straight away!



As your child uses Mathletics more, they will earn credits which they can 'spend' on this part of the site on new clothes, accessories and backgrounds! The Face maker is accesible at anytime if your child would like to use their credits or change their character by clicking on the image in the top left corner once they have logged in.

Facemaker



While using the site, children are able to earn both credits and points. Credits can be earned in 'Live Mathematics' (see section 3) and points can be earned in both 'Live Mathematics' and the 'Curriculum Activities' (see section 4).

On the left hand side of the front screen, children will be able to see the amount of points they have accumulated in the current week .

They can also click on 'My Awards', which will allow them to view and print any certificates they have gained.



To earn a Bronze Certificate, children will need to earn 1000 points in a single week.

To earn a Silver Certificate, children will need to gain 5 Bronze Certificates. This means that they will have made the effort to practise their maths for five whole weeks!

To earn the coveted Gold Certificate, children will need to gain 4 Silver certificates. This represents a total of 20 weeks dedication to improving their maths skills, an achievement in anyone's book!

If your child has achieved a silver or gold certificate, print it off and send it in for presentation in celebration assembly!

3. Live Mathletics

'Live Mathletics' is perhaps one of the most exciting areas of the resource. Here children can play mathematical games online against other children from around the world!

To play Live Mathletics, your child will need to click on the button to the right of the main screen, as shown below.



Once they have entered this part of the site, they will be able to choose one of the levels along the top of the screen.

Level 1 – Addition to 10

Level 2 – Addition to 20, Subtraction to 10

Level 3 – Addition to 99, Subtraction to 20, 2X table & 5X table

Level 4 – Addition to 99, Subtraction to 99, Multiplication & Division

Level 5 – Mixed patterns and operations – Tough!

They are then given the choice of playing against human competitors from all over the world, or a computer opponent matched to their skill level. Each game lasts 1 minute and the children are expected to answer as many questions correctly as they can in the time given. Importance is also given to accuracy, as if the child makes three mistakes (or strikes) they are out of the game!

Children are given 10 credits for a personal best (regardless of whether they win the game or not) and a bonus of 5 credits for every game they win. They also receive a point for each correct answer, which counts towards their certificates.

One of the great features of Live Mathletics is that after playing a few games, the program will work out the level your child is working at and pit them against other children of a similar level. As a result, every game they play becomes a close run thing, allowing them to taste success, while being motivated to improve.

The site is very secure and all the information that will be displayed is your child's first name and initial, with the name of the school. No communication with other users takes place so your child is totally safe using this part of the resource. Not only does this feature keep your child secure, but it means that users have no idea of the age of other users. For less able children, this means they will not know if they are playing against younger children. For more able children they could be playing against college age children, or even teachers!

Your child's maths teacher has the ability to lock children out of certain levels of Live Mathletics, meaning that a child higher up the school can focus on mental maths that are more relevant for them.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please do not be tempted to have a go on your child's Live Mathletics account. If you set a personal best which is way above their normal performance, it cannot be reset and this will make it very difficult for your child to enjoy success!

4. Curriculum Activities

Another huge part of Mathletics is the range of curriculum activities which can be completed by your child. These activities cover all the strands of numeracy and are closely linked to what is covered in school. Tasks can be set as homework by your child's teacher or completed by children at their leisure. The tasks in this area do not earn the children credits but they do earn the children 10 points for each correct answer. Therefore, they are an excellent way to achieve regular certificates. The curriculum activities differ from the Live Mathletics part of the site as they put the focus on accuracy rather than speed – there is no time limit for these tasks.

Curriculum activities can be easily accessed from the centre of the start page. Here, children can select an area of the curriculum and choose the activity they wish to complete.

Curriculum activities

Progress Bars

Gold bars completed

Activity	Score	Progress
Are You Ready?	PERFECT!	100%
Place Value to Thousands	PERFECT!	100%
Separating Numbers	PERFECT!	100%
Which is Greater?	PERFECT!	100%
Which is Less?	PERFECT!	100%
Greater Than or Less Than?	PERFECT!	100%
Numbers in Words	PERFECT!	100%
Rounding Numbers		0%
Multiplying by 10, 100, 1000		0%
Dividing by 10, 100, 1000		0%
Factors		0%
Multiples		0%
Test		0%

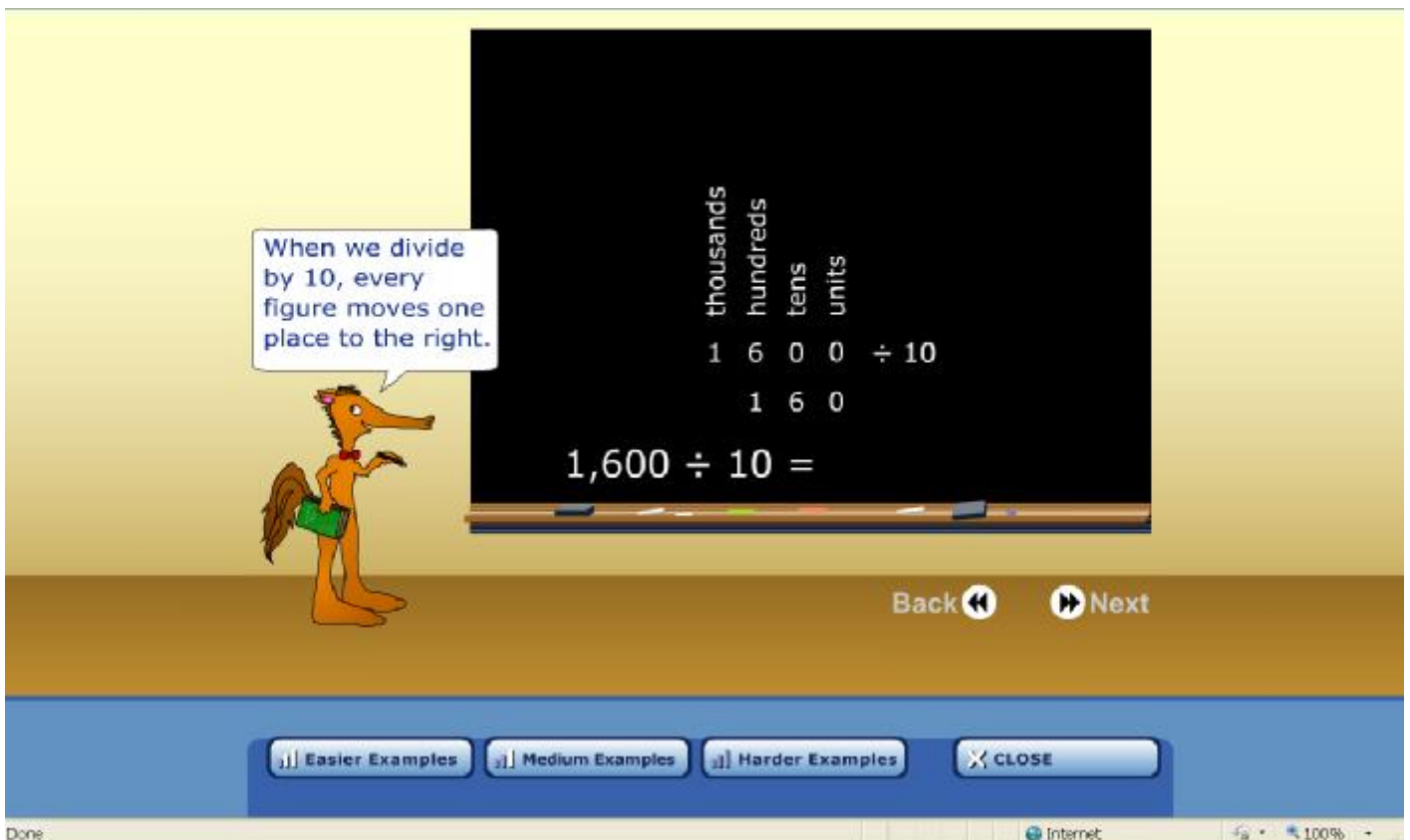
Once they have completed activities, the bar for each will fill up showing a graphical representation of their percentage score (see the blue bar above). If they complete the activity with 100% correct, the bar will turn gold and display 'Perfect'. Each activity completed perfectly earns your child a 'Gold Bar', which shows their progress through the curriculum and unlocks extra games for them to play.

A nice feature of this part of the site is that children are able to access a tutorial for each activity, enabling them to independently learn new concepts and techniques. Once on an activity, all they need to do is click the question mark on the right of the screen and they will be taken to a tutorial, as shown below.

Question mark



Tutorial Page



When we divide by 10, every figure moves one place to the right.

thousands	hundreds	tens	units
1	6	0	0
1	6	0	

$1,600 \div 10 =$

Back ◀ ▶ Next

Easier Examples Medium Examples Harder Examples CLOSE

The activities available to your child can be set by your child's class teacher. This means that children working at a different level to their peers are able to access appropriate activities. Pupils who are more able could potentially access activities up to A level! As with Live Mathletics, the site will look the same to all children, so children will not be able to see that anyone is working at a different level to them.

5. Extras

As if all that was not exciting enough, there are a whole host of extra mathematical goodies to be found on Mathletics. The best thing to do is explore the resource with your child and find out what suits them. Below is a brief outline of some of the extras to be found.

Games – These can be accessed as your child makes progress through the curriculum activities and are a fun selection of animated and amusing games.

Problem Solving – The problem solving area can be accessed near to the curriculum activities and has a range of fun, interactive activities which encourage your child to apply their maths skills to problems requiring them to work logically and methodically, key skills for a Mathlete!

Rainforest Maths – This is accessible from a bar at the top of the site and represents a wealth of interactive games and activities split by year group and subject. A fantastic area for children who want to practise something they have done in class.

Times Tables Toons – These short musical cartoons have the power to enthuse children about times tables and help them to laugh while they learn. Well worth a try!

Concept Search – This is quite a tool! Accessible from the main screen, this resource allows children (and adults!) to search for concepts and words they are unfamiliar with. This interactive dictionary often has animated explanations too. Great for homework!