Time and time lines

Key learning

Read timetables and time, using 12-hour and 24-hour clock notation.

Check that your child can:

- tell the time on both digital and analogue clocks;
- use am and pm correctly and convert these times to 24-hour notation;
- read time lines and mark positions of times and dates on them.

Notes for parents/carers

We tell the time in different ways. We use 'old-fashioned' analogue clocks, with hands, and digital clocks, which can use 12-hour and 24-hour displays. We read a train departure time as 15:45 and speak the time as 'a quarter to four'.

Help your child to tell the time by asking questions such as those below.

- How do we write '3 o'clock in the morning' using the 12-hour clock? Or the 24-hour clock? What about '2 o'clock in the afternoon'?
- How many different ways can you say the time 14:15?
- What will the video clock display at 'twenty-five minutes to ten this evening'? How can we set the video to start recording at 'ten past midnight'?
- A clock shows 11:32. How long is it to 1pm?

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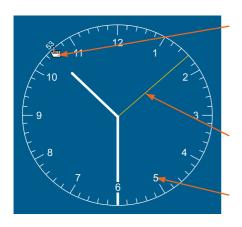
ICT links

Explore the Tell the time Interactive teaching program (ITP) at:

www.standards.dcsf.gov.uk/primaryframeworks/library/Mathematics/ICTResources/itps/

This program shows an analogue and a digital clock both displaying the same time. You can hide either of the clocks and ask your child what it should be showing.

Click on for more information.



click on a minute marker to move the minute hand to here

press and drag anywhere on the clock face to move it around the screen

the second hand is shown when seconds are selected on the digital clock 'set' control

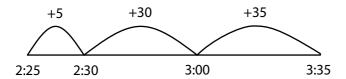
click on an hour number to move the hour hand to here

Calculating times

Help your child work out how long a bus journey takes.

The bus sets off at 2:25 pm and arrives at its destination at 3:35 pm.

Encourage your child to draw a number line to help show the passage of time.



Ask questions such as:

- How many minutes is that altogether?
- Is that more or less than an hour?
- How do we say that length of time in hours and minutes?

Help your child to use number lines to solve other time problems. Start with the questions below.

- I got home at 17:30 and went to bed at 22:20. How long was I at home before I went to bed?
- I had a meal at 18:05 but I started cooking it 45 minutes before I ate it.
 What time did I start cooking?
- It normally takes me 35 minutes to drive to work, but yesterday it took me three times as long because of the snow. I set off from home at half past seven. What time did I reach work?

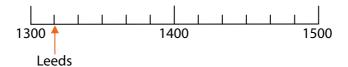
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Time lines

Here is a section from a train timetable for a particular journey. Help your child to mark the five stations on a time line like the one started below.

Leeds	1310
Huddersfield	1330
Manchester	1405
Warrington	1425
Liverpool	1455



As you go along, ask your child questions such as those below.

- What times do each of the marks on the time line represent?
- Where should we put the arrow for Manchester?
- Which times were most difficult to mark on the line? Why?

Prime minister time line

Help your child to mark on a time line when these prime ministers first came to power.

Make up some more questions relating to time lines.

1964
1970
1979
1997

