

Year 2 Use Arrays Guidance

Activity Outcomes

- Your child will learn how to use arrays to calculate multiplication statements.
- They will also learn about the commutativity of times table facts, e.g. 2×4 and 4×2 .

Setting Up

What you will need

- Different sized Lego® brick pieces (all rectangular).
- Paper and pen
- Four in a row game
- Cards with number sentences written on.

Activity Guide

Activity 1 – Identify the Number Sentence

- The child is given different brick pieces and they count the total number of dots.
- They then count how many columns there are and how many rows there are.
- This is put into a number sentence: column \times row.
- The activity is repeated but the brick is rotated so that commutativity can be demonstrated.

Activity 2 – Create an Array from a Number Sentence

- The child is given a multiplication fact, for example: 3×5 .
- They then create this on a 'four in a row game'.
- Children should be asked how many columns they will need and how many rows they will need to create an array of the fact.

Questions you could ask your child during the activity

- What do you notice about the order of the numbers in the calculations?
- How does the representation help you to work out the answer?
- What is a row? What is a column?

Further Support and Ideas

- Watch this idea on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/DMBHvpl6YRQ>
- For tutorials, interactive games and more to support this lesson on using arrays visit kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk