

Understanding timetables and 24-hour clocks

Key learning

Read timetables and time, using 24-hour clock notation; use a calendar to calculate time intervals.

Check that your child can:

- read a timetable written in 24-hour notation;
- solve problems, using a timetable;
- work out the length of time between dates, using a calendar.

Notes for parents/carers

There are lots of opportunities to read timetables and schedules in the home. Help your child to interpret bus, train and ferry timetables, airline flight times and TV schedules. Help them to work out arrival and departure times, how long a journey takes or how long a TV programme lasts.

Study a calendar with your child and help them:

- Work out how many weeks they have to save up pocket money for their next holiday;
- Use a calculator to work on how many hours, then minutes, there are in August;
- Work backwards to find what day of the week they were born (don't forget leap years!);

Look at a TV programme guide.

Television programme guide			
BBC 1		ITV 1	
5:35 pm	Neighbours	5:15 pm	Soapstar Superchef
6:00 pm	BBC News	6:00 pm	London Tonight
6:15 pm	Regional news	6:30 pm	ITV Evening News
6:30 pm	Mission Africa	7:00 pm	Emmerdale
7:25 pm	Holiday	7:30 pm	Coronation Street
8:00 pm	Match of the Day	8:00 pm	Cash in your house

Ask questions such as:

- How long does the programme 'Mission Africa' last?
- If I turn over to BBC 1 at the end of 'Emmerdale', what programme is on?
- How long is it until your favourite programme starts? What did you need to know to work that out?
- How long does Channel 4 spend broadcasting news programmes in one day? Is it the same on weekdays and at the weekend?

With your child, both predict how long you think will be spent on news programmes, then work together to add up the times. Who was closer to the actual time?

Look at a timetable such as the London to Dublin train and ferry timetable with your child.

Train and ferry timetable				
London to Dublin				
London Euston train depart:	06:46	09:00	11:28	19:38
Holyhead train arrive:	11:30	13:03	15:30	23:29
Change trains at:	Crewe	direct	Crewe	direct
Holyhead ferry depart:	12:00	14:10	17:15	02:40
Dublin Ferryport arrive:	13:49	17:25	19:04	05:55

Ask questions such as:

- How long does the first train from London Euston take to travel to Holyhead?
- If you left London Euston at 9:00 am, when should you arrive in Dublin?
- If you arrive at Holyhead at 15:30, how long do you have to wait for the ferry to depart?
- If you had to be in Dublin by 2:00 pm, which train would you catch from London Euston?
- Which of these journeys from London to Dublin is the quickest?

Activities to carry out together

Use a calendar showing days and months to:

- find birthdays of members of the family and work out how many days and weeks it is until their next birthday;
- find out what days of the week your birthdays will fall on next year;
- work out the length of the school summer holiday;
- look at the calendar for May and work out what day 13 June will fall on. Check to see if you were right.

Produce your own timetable of events for the week.

December

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	
6	7	8	9	10		
13	14	15				
20	21	22				
27	28					

When working with your child, try asking them:

- what they have learnt in mathematics;
- to draw a picture to explain.

ICT links

Use the Internet to find other examples of timetables and time differences around the world.

Use the computer to make a calendar for next year.