

Ancient Chinese Times Tables Scroll

You will need:



x 10

1. Line up your lolly sticks horizontally. Draw 10 vertical lines down them, with approximately equal distance. This will help you keep your numbers lined up.
2. Write out your tables, starting with the one times table on the bottom stick, the two times table on the second one and so on. If you don't know them yet that's fine – you can copy from a grid, or ask your grown-up to help.
3. Done them all? Weave the thread in and out of the sticks at one end. You might need two people, one to hold the sticks.
4. Now weave the other way...When you're done, make the thread as tight as you can and tie the ends in a knot.
5. Do the same on the other side – and admire!

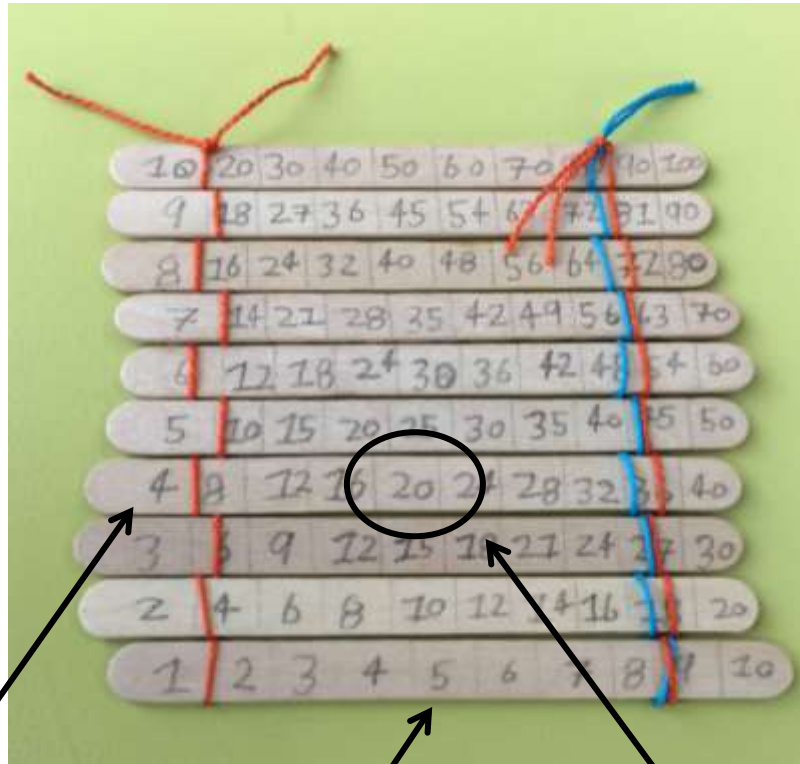


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How to use your Times Tables Scroll

Let's take 4×5 as an example:



Look at the row of numbers from 1 – 10 along the bottom, and the column of numbers 1 – 10 on the left. Find the 4, then find the 5

Follow across and up from the 4 and 5. The point at which they meet is the answer!

Why is this maths?

You are making your own version of an ancient scroll that was used to record the times tables in China around 305 BC. How old is that?

This is just one example of how maths has been used around the world in history! Can you find anymore?

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