

Multiplication facts

Approach: Station

Level: Year 4 and year 8

Resources: Video

Questions/instructions

The video explained that students were to attempt a series of multiplications which would be presented on the screen and also spoken on the soundtrack. Each item took approximately 2 seconds to speak, and there was a gap of about 3 seconds before the next item was presented. The 30 items were:

4×9	0×1	8×3
6×9	3×8	9×1
1×4	6×6	2×7
5×6	5×4	9×6
8×7	7×2	2×0
7×9	1×8	8×4
3×3	5×8	2×9
5×9	6×1	4×7
9×4	0×0	7×6
4×1	3×2	9×9

	% responses		
	y4	y8	
Number correct:	30	4	37
27-29	7	30	
21-26	18	19	
15-20	28	9	
9-14	22	4	
0-8	21	1	

Commentary

Two thirds of year 8 students succeeded with at least 90 percent of the multiplication, whereas only 11 percent of year 4 students performed at that level. Over 40 percent of year 4 students got less than half right. Success rates were highest when both the numbers to be multiplied were 0,1,2 or 5, and lowest when both numbers were 4,6,7,8,9. The lowest success rates among year 8 students were with

8×7 (61%)	7×6 (70%)	7×9 (72%)
9×6 (74%)	9×4 (76%)	4×7 (76%).