



h2b's great ideas for Christmas... MATHS WRAP

helping children "wrap up their times tables!"

A Yorkshire inventor has created a revolutionary new way of teaching children their times tables. Maths Wrap looks like an iPod and feels like a game, but it's a powerful tool for building confidence and helping children understand the process of multiplication.

When h2b went along to meet the inventor, Simon Deacon, a maths tutor and former naval engineer, he was full of enthusiasm for all things mathematical. "I noticed that many children struggle with learning their times tables from books," he says. "I wanted to give them something more dynamic – something they could actually hold and play with."

Maths Wrap uses the principles of kinaesthetic education: learning by doing something physical. "Many children learn best when they're physically engaged, and doing something with their hands. It helps them process information," says Simon Deacon. The 'doing-and-seeing' method also helps children recognise patterns of numbers in the tables they're learning. Multiplication tables are the building blocks of mathematics: children who are confident with them find it easier to master complex problems such as division and algebra. "But the real beauty of Maths Wrap is that it's fun to play with," says Simon Deacon. "Once children get used to using their wrap, they soon start to see a great improvement in ability and confidence."

Maths Wrap has already won the approval of many teachers. "It will transform the learning of multiplication tables for children, both at home and in the classroom," says Claire Davies, a Warrington deputy head.

The launch is the culmination of a five-year dream for its inventor. "I made the prototype in a shed in the back garden," says Simon Deacon.

"Since then, it's been through quite a few changes, and lots of road-testing by hundreds of children. But the heart of the thing remains the same, that children should have fun with the fundamental process of learning their times tables."

Simon also has a passion for getting children to appreciate *why maths is the way it is now* and is actively creating a new website to demonstrate maths history, fascinating facts, puzzles, games and competitions. Full details can be found on mathswrap.co.uk. Wrap up one of your children's gifts with Maths Wrap!

- **Only £4.99- great value!**
- **Includes everything you need up to 12x table**
- **Free 16 page booklet packed with brilliant maths facts, puzzles, games and tricks to amaze your friends.**
- **Fun, simple, unique**
- **Confidence building**
- **Suitable for 7 to 11 year olds**

Maths Wrap is available November 1, 2008, from www.mathswrap.co.uk



WIN A FREE MATHS WRAP

Prize draw competition!

A centillion is the highest number recognised by mathematicians and has 303 zeros (600 in Britain). Can you find out how many zeros in:

- A MILLION?
- A BILLION?
- A TRILLION?
- A QUADRILLION?
- A QUINTILLION?

Put your answers on a postcard and send to: h2b journal, 1 cottage Road, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 4DD

Closing date: 1/1/09

Don't forget to add your name, address and phone number.

6 lucky winners will each receive a free Maths Wrap!

FACT WRAP LIMITED

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