

Multiplication: Games to practice multiplication

Multiplication Racetrack

As well as the board you will need two counters and a 1-6 die.

You can print the board below or make your own – or work with the child to make a board. The simplest rules are that you play the child, each of you having a counter. Each player in turn rolls a 1-6 die and moves that number of squares. You have to answer the question on the square you land on (or if it gives instructions, follow them and if appropriate answer the question on the new square). The winner is the first player to reach ‘finish’.

The game can be adapted for adding, subtracting, or dividing.

Domino Multiplication (or if no dominoes, use dice!)

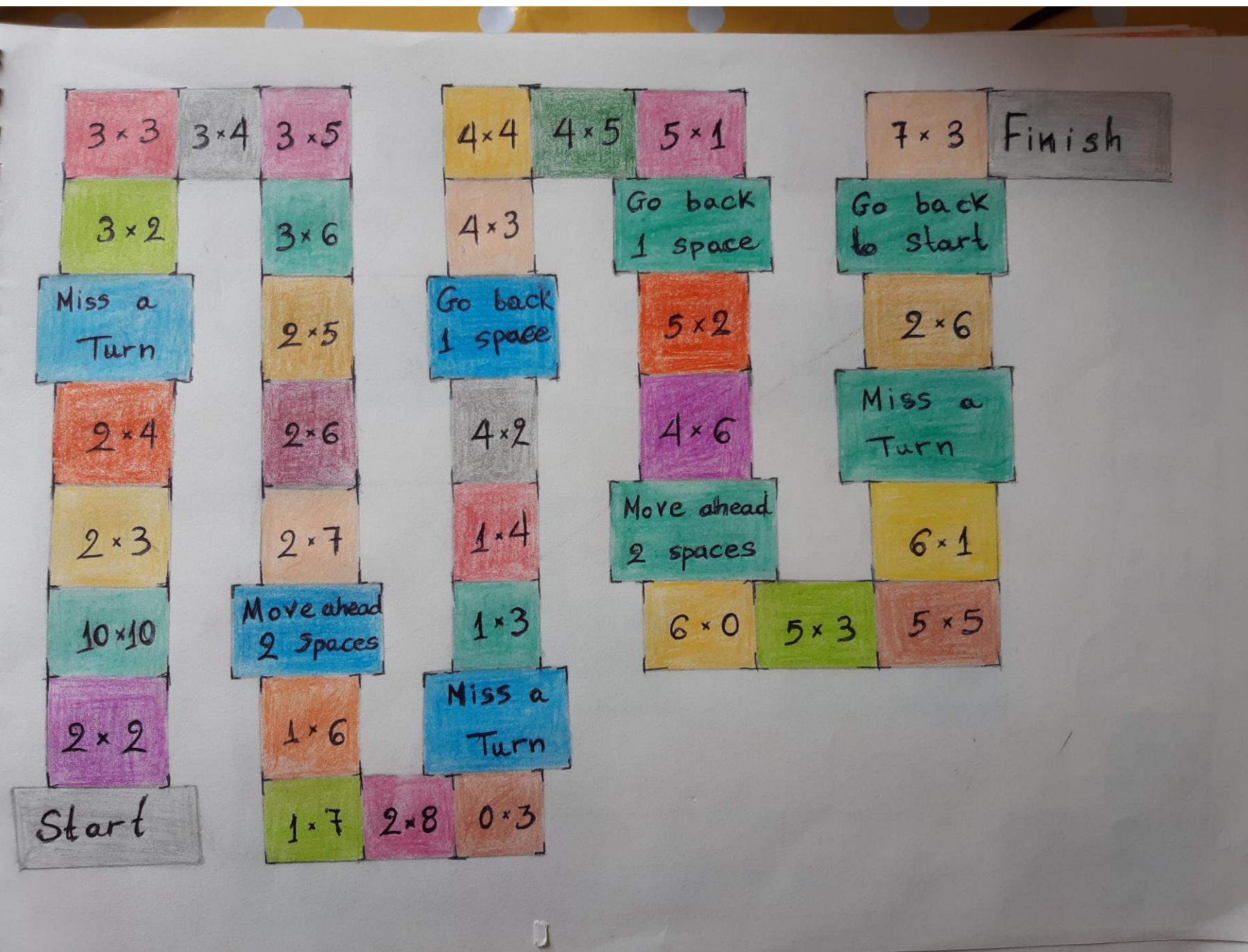
As well as the sheet below you will need dominoes. (Or you can use a whiteboard and do just one or two multiplications at a time.)

Make a sheet as below to show blank multiplication number sentences: _____ \times _____ = _____

The child picks one domino at a time and completes the number sentence accordingly. For example, if she/he picks the 5 4 domino, the sentence should be

$$5 \times 4 = 20 \text{ or } 4 \times 5 = 20$$

You would normally only use one of these for each domino, but, if you wish, it is an opportunity to get the child to work out that the order of multiplication doesn’t matter – the answer is the same. (This is the ‘commutative’ property of multiplication.)



Multiplication Racetrack

Domino multiplication



$$4 \times 0 = 0$$



$$4 \times 2 = 8$$



$$4 \times 4 = 16$$



$$3 \times 1 = 3$$



$$3 \times 0 = 0$$



$$1 \times 5 = 5$$



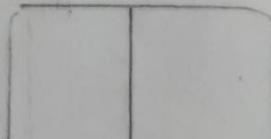
$$2 \times 2 = 4$$



$$6 \times 6 = 36$$
$$6+6+6+6+6+6 = 36$$



$$6 \times 3 = 18$$
$$6+6+6$$



$$3 \times 1 = 3$$