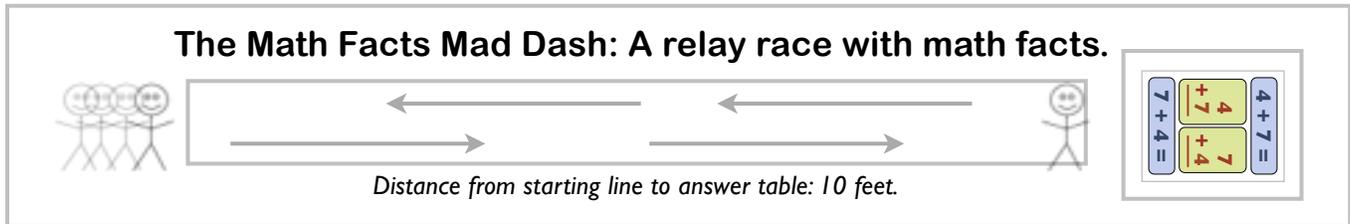


# The Math Facts Mad Dash

A relay race brings motivation and awareness to children and parents.



Any elementary school teacher, or middle school math teacher will tell you, many children struggle with math because they lack math fluency, the ability to understand and recall basic facts like  $4 \times 7 = 28$ .

These children count to answer facts. They struggle to complete assignments and grasp new concepts. They fall further and further behind.

This lack of fluency hurts our children. They under-perform in math and science their whole lives. This hurts our nation. We under-produce mathematicians, engineers, programmers, and scientists, essential professions for competing in a global economy.

This is a solvable problem, and it can be done at home. Parents and children need resources (free online), and motivation. The Math Facts Mad Dash can supply awareness and motivation to children and parents.

The Math Facts Mad Dash is a relay race with math facts. Once children learn the facts, they race to complete the dash with speed and accuracy. Children want to learn the facts so they can do well at the dash.

The Math Facts Mad Dash is like The National Spelling Bee in some ways. Children compete to answer questions. The best move on to compete against other schools, districts, etc.

The Math Facts Mad Dash is different from the spelling bee. There are three events. Individuals, teams, and parent and child. There are a finite set of facts to learn. Every child can learn these facts and be a serious contender. Parents are encouraged to participate. The Math Facts Mad Dash is local. Districts and counties host finals, but there is no long-distance travel.

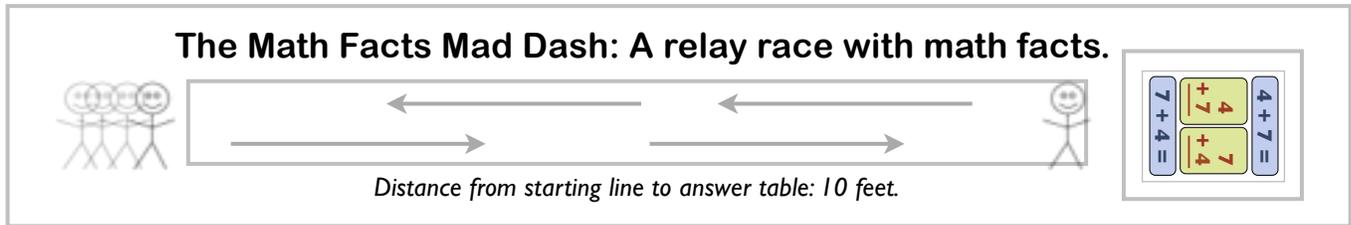
There are no fees or purchases necessary. Teachers can have classroom dashes. Schools can have a championship and send teams to a district or county finals.

StudySmart is the lead sponsor of the dash. At [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com) there is a manual for educators, and a guide for parents. For children there is a guide on how to learn facts, and how to study. There are printable, instructional flashcards, and a growing library of resources for teachers, parents, and children.

**Need help getting started? Free training and support.**

Contact [info@studysmart.com](mailto:info@studysmart.com). We will answer your questions with an e-mail or a phone call.

# The Math Facts Mad Dash for Principals



Option 1: Have a school championship and go no further. Set a date, time, and location.

Option 2: Have a school championship. Send teams to the district or county finals.

We can tell children math fluency is important. We can show them how to make sense of a fact. We can show them how to gain automaticity. We also need to provide incentives and motivation. The Math Facts Mad Dash sends these essential messages:

Math facts fluency is very important.

All children can improve their fluency.

Children benefit when parents are aware and involved.

There are many easy, fun and free activities for parents and children.

We need to challenge children, then recognize their effort, progress, and achievement.

## Procedures

1) Share *The Math Facts Mad Dash for Teachers*.

Teachers can use their present approach to teaching math fluency. Activities are optional.

2) Share *The Math Facts Mad Dash for Parents*.

Parents can enter the Parent & Child Math Facts Dash.

3) Announce a date and time for a school try-outs/championship.

4) Arrange to send finalists to the district or country championship.

## Consider having a Parent & Child Championship at after-school functions.

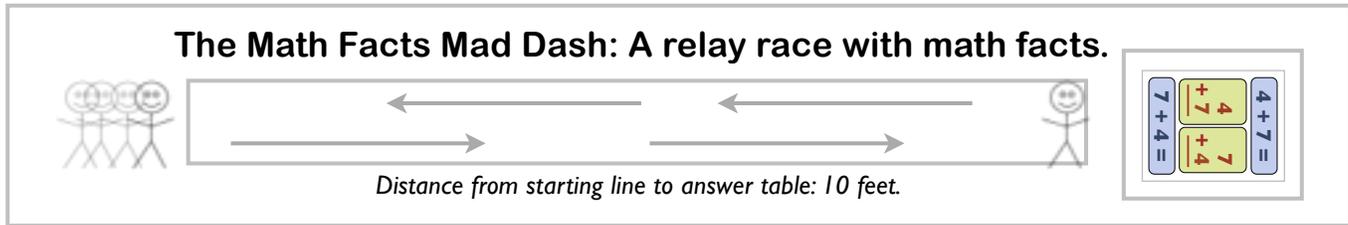
A Parent and Child Championship raises awareness, and motivates parents and children to practice together.

There are no fees and no purchase necessary.

All you need to do is announce the championship, and get three parent volunteers to run the station.

If you would like help with this event, or have any other questions, contact Mitch: [mathfactscoach@gmail.com](mailto:mathfactscoach@gmail.com).

# The Math Facts Mad Dash for Teachers



We can tell children math fluency is important. We can show them how to make sense of a fact. We can show them how to gain automaticity. We also need to provide incentives and motivation. The Math Facts Mad Dash sends these essential messages:

Math facts fluency is very important.

All children can improve their fluency.

Children benefit when parents are aware and involved.

There are many easy, fun and free activities for parents and children.

We need to challenge children, then recognize their effort, progress, and achievement.

**The Math Facts Mad Dash is a relay race with math facts for Grades K-6.**

There are three events for each grade level:

- 1) A team of four.
- 2) Individual.
- 3) A parent and child.



## Goals and Benefits of The Math Facts Mad Dash

- To motivate children to study, understand, practice, and master essential math facts.
- To help parents understand math fluency, and its importance to success in math.
- To provide activities for teachers, children and parents that promote math fluency.
- To help children develop grit, responsibility, study skills, and a practice habit.
- There are no fees, and no purchase necessary. There is no overnight travel.



## Why a math facts fluency relay race.

The Math Facts Mad Dash motivates children to understand and recall facts quickly.

A relay race adds fun and exercise, while releasing endorphins and sending blood and oxygen to the brain.

**Teachers: Use your present approach to teaching math fluency.**

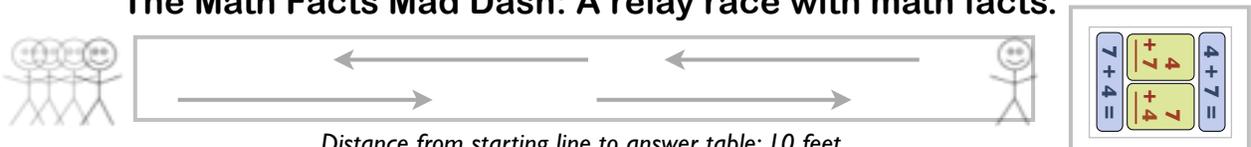
See the teacher's guide and printable, instructional flashcards at [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com).

All activities are optional. All activities include simple step-by-step instructions.

If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Mitch: [mathfactscoach@gmail.com](mailto:mathfactscoach@gmail.com).

# The Math Facts Mad Dash for Parents

**The Math Facts Mad Dash: A relay race with math facts.**



7	+	4	=	4	+	7	=
4	+	7	=	7	+	4	=

Distance from starting line to answer table: 10 feet.

**The Math Facts Mad Dash is a relay race with math facts, for Grades 2-5.**

There are three events for each grade level:

- 1) A team of four.
- 2) Individual.
- 3) A parent and child.



## Goals and Benefits of The Math Facts Mad Dash

- To motivate children to study, understand, practice, and master essential math facts.
- To help parents understand math fluency, and its importance.
- To provide activities for children and parents that promote math fluency.
- To help children develop grit, responsibility, study skills, and a practice habit.
- There are no fees, and no purchase necessary. There is no overnight travel.

## Why math facts fluency? Why a relay race?

Understanding and recalling basic math facts is key to success in math.

The Math Facts Mad Dash motivates children to understand and recall facts quickly.

A relay race adds fun and exercise, while releasing endorphins and sending blood and oxygen to the brain.

## Parents, get ready to do the dash.

Your children will be showing you how they do the dash. You can join them. It only takes a minute.

- 1) Set up a Math Facts Mad Dash lane in your living room or backyard.
- 2) Choose facts.\*
- 3) Start a timer and go!.

## Things to do

- Watch your children run the dash at least once a week.
- Do the dash with them at least once a week.
- See the guide for parents and the how-to-study guide for children.\*
- Be a volunteer to run the dash at school. Talk to your children's teachers.



\* For printable flashcards, a guide for parents, and a guide for children, visit [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com).

# Rules and Regulations

The purpose of The Math Facts Mad Dash is to encourage young people to gain fluency, automaticity, and give them an opportunity to demonstrate their progress and achievement.

## General Information

1. The Math Facts Mad Dash is open to any student, grades 2-5, who qualifies for his or her school team. K-1 can participate, without scores and timers. See FAQs.

## The Format.

1. The distance from starting line to answer table is ten feet.
2. Grades 2-3 will answer the addition facts listed below.  
Grades 4-5 will answer the multiplication facts listed below.  
For championships, use all 28 facts. Otherwise, choose facts. Suggestion: Ten facts in under a minute.
3. If using flashcards, a monitor will place the cards on the answer table, in a stack, questions facing up.  
When a student's answer is correct, the monitor places the card in the *correct* pile.  
When a student's answer is not correct, the monitor places the card in the *incorrect* pile.  
The judge says "Go" and starts a timer.  
The judge turns the timer off when the final question is answered, and the player crosses the starting line.
4. If using the FastFacts Math App, use the following options. No timer is needed.  
Speed Mode: On  
Multiple Choice.  
Time to Answer: 7 seconds.

## Scoring and Penalties

A team receives a point for each correct answer.

A team loses a point and receives a ten-second penalty if:

- 1) The next player leaves the starting line before the previous crosses the finish line.
- 2) The next player is not behind the starting line.
- 3) A player calls out an answer.
- 4) A player uses foul language, or does something considered unsportsmanlike by the judge.

The time is noted, and used as a tie-breaker if the score is tied.

### Addition

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1) $3 + 3$  | 15) $5 + 6$ |
| 2) $3 + 4$  | 16) $5 + 7$ |
| 3) $3 + 5$  | 17) $5 + 8$ |
| 4) $3 + 6$  | 18) $5 + 9$ |
| 5) $3 + 7$  | 19) $6 + 6$ |
| 6) $3 + 8$  | 20) $6 + 7$ |
| 7) $3 + 9$  | 21) $6 + 8$ |
| 8) $4 + 4$  | 22) $6 + 9$ |
| 9) $4 + 5$  | 23) $7 + 7$ |
| 10) $4 + 6$ | 24) $7 + 8$ |
| 11) $4 + 7$ | 25) $7 + 9$ |
| 12) $4 + 8$ | 26) $8 + 8$ |
| 13) $4 + 9$ | 27) $8 + 9$ |
| 14) $5 + 5$ | 28) $9 + 9$ |

### Multiplication

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1) $3 \times 3$  | 15) $5 \times 6$ |
| 2) $3 \times 4$  | 16) $5 \times 7$ |
| 3) $3 \times 5$  | 17) $5 \times 8$ |
| 4) $3 \times 6$  | 18) $5 \times 9$ |
| 5) $3 \times 7$  | 19) $6 \times 6$ |
| 6) $3 \times 8$  | 20) $6 \times 7$ |
| 7) $3 \times 9$  | 21) $6 \times 8$ |
| 8) $4 \times 4$  | 22) $6 \times 9$ |
| 9) $4 \times 5$  | 23) $7 \times 7$ |
| 10) $4 \times 6$ | 24) $7 \times 8$ |
| 11) $4 \times 7$ | 25) $7 \times 9$ |
| 12) $4 \times 8$ | 26) $8 \times 8$ |
| 13) $4 \times 9$ | 27) $8 \times 9$ |
| 14) $5 \times 5$ | 28) $9 \times 9$ |

# FAQs & Miscellaneous

## Kindergarten and First Grade Format

Use the *How Many* flashcards at the StudySmart web site.

Children run from starting line to answer table, answer the question, and run back to the starting line.  
No timers. No scores.

## Time Limits

If using flashcards, the monitor can determine too much time to answer, and place the card in the incorrect pile.

If using the FastFacts Math app, set the time to answer to seven seconds, a different time, or no time limit.

Option: For ten facts, you can choose to have a one-minute time limit to complete the ten facts.

Option: For 28 facts, you can choose to have a three-minute time limit to complete the 28 facts.

## Best Teams, Individuals, Parent & Child, School

At the finals, the team, individual, and Parent & Child with the best time and score is deemed champion.

Option: To determine a school champion, add and compare total points for all event, all levels.

## Level Options

Depending on the size of your school or district, you can choose:

Option 1 Two levels: Grades 2 & 3: Addition. Grades 4-6: Multiplication.

Option 2 Each grade is a level.

## Documents at [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com)

- Parent's Guide
- Student Guide
- Math Facts Mad Dash Manual
- Practice Charts
- Instructional Flashcards: How Many, Addition, Multiplication

## Coming Soon to [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com)

- Video Flashcards: 15-second mini-lessons that promote math facts fluency.
- Articles for teachers and parents.
- Instructional videos on developing study skills.
- Video on hosting a Math Facts Mad Dash.

# The Math Facts Mad Dash Roster

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Teams can have as few as three, and as many five. Players name their team.

<b>Team 1:</b>	<b>Team 2:</b>
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)
<b>Team 3:</b>	<b>Team 4:</b>
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)
<b>Team 5:</b>	<b>Team 6:</b>
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)
<b>Team 7:</b>	<b>Team 8:</b>
1)	1)
2)	2)
3)	3)
4)	4)
5)	5)

# Practice Charts Remind Children to Study.

A simple way to keep parents aware and involved.

Practice charts help children build a home practice habit.

The Math Facts Mad Dash motivates children to study and practice at home, on their own.

Children study on their own for a few minutes a day, and run the dash.

Then they mark their practice chart.

With a glance, parents can see if their children practiced, and how they did on the dash.

Parents do the dash with their children at least once a week. It only takes a minute.

At the end of the week, parents sign the chart, and children bring it to school.

Teachers send home a practice chart once a week.

If the teacher does not send home a practice chart, parents can print and post one once a week.

Print Practice Charts at [studysmart.com](http://studysmart.com)

## Anatomy of a Practice Chart

Name: <i>Patty Smith</i>		Class: <i>Mrs. Unger</i>			<b>Instructions</b> Check the facts you are studying.  Each day, practice, record the date, activity, and score on the dash.
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 + 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 + 6	Date	Activity		Score
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 + 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 + 7	9-26	Flashcard game.	6	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 + 5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 + 8	9-27	Wrote a story about 5 + 7.	7	
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 + 6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5 + 9	9-28	Drew a picture about 5 + 8.	9	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 + 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 + 6				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 + 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 + 7				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 + 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 + 8				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 + 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 + 9				
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 + 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 + 7				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 + 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 + 8				
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 + 7	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 + 9				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 + 8	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 + 8				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 + 9	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 + 9				
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 + 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 + 9				
Parent Signature: <i>Stacy Smith</i>		Children check boxes of the facts they are practicing.			<b>The Math Facts Mad Dash</b>  What was your best score on your own?  _____ 9 _____  What was your best score with a parent?  _____ 10 _____

Parent and child do the dash at least once a week.