

Let's make this A Summer to Remember

Instead of forgetting facts over the break, students gain fluency and mastery.

If students studied math facts for five minutes a day over the summer break, they would start the school year knowing essential facts, brimming with confidence, and owning a home practice routine.

We developed an app to encourage students to practice and learn math facts at home, on their own. Summer is an ideal time to make this happen. Here is an overview:

Send home the page for parents (See attached). Students practice on their own.

There is a page of study tips and a video at studysmart.com.

When students master a list, they check it off on their Progress Chart, and go to the next list.

Parents can follow their children's progress by glancing at their Progress Chart.

There is nothing teachers need to do.

Option: Teachers can create their own parents page with their own lists and criteria.

Students who learn their facts over the summer prove something to teachers, students and parents:

Home practice is an effective ingredient to reaching math fluency.

During the 2025-26 school year, we will work with teachers on a class assessment that:

- Motivates students to learn math facts at home, on their own.
- Provides accurate feedback to students, teachers and parents.
- Takes less class time, and creates less paperwork for teachers.

My name is Mitchell Mark. I was a Third Grade Teacher and an Supervisor to Teacher Education at The University of California at Riverside. I have a post-graduate degree in Curriculum and Instructional Design. I designed the FastFacts Math app. If you have questions, please contact me at the number or email below.

Best wishes,

Mitch Mark

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Let's make this A Summer to Remember

Instead of losing ground during summer break, children stay sharp and focused.

Greetings Parents,

We have been testing a way for students to study and learn math facts on their own at home. The results are encouraging. Children study on their own for five minutes a day. They mark their progress on the chart below. Children learn math facts, gain confidence, and build a powerful home practice routine.

All you need to do is:

Go to studysmart.com. Get the FastFats Math app.

Post the chart below on your fridge.

Children practice on their own.

Your role is to follow their progress and provide encouragement.

There is a page with tips for parents, and a page of study tips for children at studysmart.com.

The app is on sale of 99¢. There are free instructional flashcards.

If you have questions, ask Mitch. He developed the app. mitchellmarkteacher@gmail.com



Progress Chart for

For Students

- 1) Enter your name.
 - 2) Tap on Create a List. Choose a list.
 - 3) Options:
 - Multiple Choice
 - Practice Mode On
 - Speed Mode: Off or On
 - Timer: Your choice. Off or 3 Seconds.
- Watch the video at studysmart.com.

Grades 2-3: Addition Grade 4+: Multiplication

Starts with 2s. When you get 100%, in under 24 seconds, three times in a row, check the box and go to 3s. For Comprehensive, the time to beat is 108 seconds.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2s | <input type="checkbox"/> 3s | <input type="checkbox"/> 4s | <input type="checkbox"/> 5s |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6s | <input type="checkbox"/> 7s | <input type="checkbox"/> 8s | <input type="checkbox"/> 9s |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive | | | |

Math is much better when you know your facts.

You CAN do this!

Keys to Success

Practice for five minutes every day.

Attach your practice routine to something you already do every day, like right after dinner.

Answer quickly. Trust your brain. Use the timer as a tool to help you answer quickly.

If you are not correct, or if time runs out, stay focused and calm.

Incorrect answers are NOT mistakes. They are opportunities to learn.

After an incorrect answer, tap on *See Back of Card*. Think about the graphics. Say and write the fact.

Every time you answer a fact you get better. You CAN learn these facts.