



Have you ever asked yourself...

Why does my kid hate math?



How do I get my child to get his math homework done without all the negative fallout?

5 REASONS YOUR CHILD HATES MATH:

1. OVERWHELMED

Because adults make kids learn new stuff before they're comfortable with the old; too much of that and they **want to quit**.

2. NO BUY IN

Because hard work is forced on them--no choice--with nothing for them in return; "work without pay" makes them **feel ripped off**.

3. WASTE OF TIME

Because they don't understand why they have to do it, making them feel like math is a complete and **total waste of time**.

4. IT'S MINDLESS

Because they aren't taught *how to think* (only to memorize) which makes them **feel dumb and incapable**.

5. IT'S BORING

Because math seems dry and tedious, progress seems slow and there seems to be no end in sight; that makes them **bored out of their ever-lovin' mind**.

NET RESULT: FEAR

In their hearts they fear they are not as smart as everyone else and rather than admit that to themselves or run the risk of being "found out", they would rather simply *check out*.

7 REMEDIES TO FIX IT:

1. MASTERY OF TIMES TABLES

Back up and start your child over, as if they've learned no math at all. Make the very first goal **MASTERY OF TIMES TABLES**. This is a better way to start math than addition because the equations in multiplication are too hard for kids to figure out using external crutches (like fingers, counting beads, tapping a pencil, etc.). Therefore, you are left with a much better opportunity to engage the child's mind and for them to discover what a great tool their very own brain can be.



2. WHAT WOULD MAKE ME LIKE MATH?

Ask yourself: *If I were the one who had to learn the times tables, what would make ME like it?* See what you can do to make it seem fun and exciting, make it feel to them like they're learning quickly, and to enjoy the process enough they don't care if the end is in sight. If you design a **PROCESS** they can fall in love with, the need to push them will be removed. That takes a huge load off us as parents and preserves relationships.



3. THE ACT OF THINKING AND TAKING CONTROL

The act of Thinking--that is, **TAKING CONTROL** of what goes on in our own brains--is the hardest work we will ever do in life (and the reason so many people don't do it!). Therefore, while you're teaching your child to **THINK**, remove as many other things from them that they find "heavy" as you can. For example, while they are thinking, don't also make them write (if that's something they don't like) or hold still (if holding still is hard) or to do any other math homework (if possible) or to carry any other mental or emotional burdens that aren't absolutely necessary for their immediate success. As the "thinking muscles" build strength, more weight can and should be added. In fact, just like an adult gym-goer, they will welcome it. (Hint: Too little weight is boring to a weight lifter; too much is demoralizing.)



If you're too dang busy to fit Remedies 1-6 into your life, no worries; we've got you covered. There really IS an easier math road than the one you've been trodding and it's called **MathHacked.**

4. AVOID USING MEMORIZATION

Avoid the use of memorization as much as possible (i.e., filling their minds with facts) because memorizing is boring. Instead, teach them how to "figure out" or discover their own answers to the equations (this is teaching them how to **THINK**). If you're always having to tell or remind them of answers, that makes you the smart one; if they can figure out their own answers, that makes **THEM** feel smart.



5. GIVE YOUR CHILD THE REINS

Give your child the reins. Let him or her "drive", cuz being the driver helps us feel in control of our lives. If kids feel some control, they will perform better. Ask them, Do you want to work on your times tables? If they say no, say "okay" and then ask them again another day. Invite, invite, invite. Entice, entreat, persuade, even bribe if you have to, but **DON'T FORCE**. Let it be their choice and **BELIEVE IT**--once they opt in, they will progress so quickly that any lost time will be recovered (and then some!).

6. BE WILLING TO LISTEN AND ADJUST

Part of "letting children drive" is to watch closely their body language, listen closely to their words. Be willing to adjust whatever it is you're doing based on their emotional state. If they don't like what you're doing, make an adjustment until they do. Keep in mind that student inability is usually nothing more than teacher inflexibility. Be flexible. Be creative. With some out-of-the-box thinking, you can almost always arrive at something that pleases both you **AND** your child. This feels very much like Respect to a child, and that Respect will return to you.



7. LET US HELP YOU OUT!

