



7

KS2 | Ages 7-11

10 Simple Ways to Improve Your Child's Maths Confidence

Practical ways to strengthen independence, number fluency and a positive approach to challenge.



10

KS2 confidence grows when children understand that methods can be learned, discussed and improved.



Choose the ideas that fit your child. Consistency and calm matter more than trying everything at once.

1

Connect maths to everyday life

Use shopping, recipes, journey times and sports scores to show that maths has a purpose beyond worksheets.

TRY IT: Compare two prices or work out how long it is until an activity begins.

SAY: "Where can you see the maths in this situation?"

2

Praise the method, not just the mark

Notice choosing a sensible strategy, showing working and checking. This keeps confidence steady when questions become harder.

TRY IT: Point to one useful step even when the final answer needs correcting.

SAY: "That was a strong method. Let's check the last step."

3

Normalise productive struggle

A pause or first failed attempt does not mean your child cannot do maths. It often means their brain is making new connections.

TRY IT: Allow quiet thinking time before offering a hint.

SAY: "It is okay not to know yet. What could you try first?"

4

Practise times tables little and often

Short, varied practice builds recall without turning tables into a high-pressure test. Use patterns and related division facts.

TRY IT: Choose one table and spend five minutes skip-counting, sorting cards or finding fact families.

SAY: "Which facts do you already know that can help?"

5

Ask before you explain

Taking over can accidentally signal that the problem is beyond your child. Start with questions that uncover what they already know.

TRY IT: Ask: What is the question asking? What information matters? What could you draw?

SAY: "Talk me through what you notice."



Choose the ideas that fit your child. Consistency and calm matter more than trying everything at once.

6

Make ideas visible

Number lines, bar models, arrays and place-value charts can turn an abstract problem into something your child can reason about.

TRY IT: Draw a bar model for a word problem before choosing the calculation.

SAY: "Could a picture or diagram help us see it?"

7

Build maths vocabulary

Words such as factor, multiple, product and denominator can block understanding. Revisit them calmly and use them in full sentences.

TRY IT: Keep a small glossary with one example beside each new word.

SAY: "What does that word tell us to think about?"

8

Reduce pressure around speed

Fluency matters, but rushing can increase anxiety and errors. Build accuracy and understanding before introducing any timed challenge.

TRY IT: Let your child answer a small set accurately, then reflect on the strategy.

SAY: "Careful and clear comes before quick."

9

Follow the school's method

Methods may look different from those adults learned. Ask your child to demonstrate the classroom approach before introducing another one.

TRY IT: Use an example from their book and let them be the teacher.

SAY: "Show me how your class is learning this."

10

Keep a record of small wins

Confidence improves when progress is visible. Record new facts, successful strategies and questions your child can now explain.

TRY IT: Add one sentence each week to a 'Maths I can do' page.

SAY: "Look at what has become easier for you."