

# *Parent Guide to* **PRIMARY SATs**

*What you'll find inside:*

What to expect when your child starts  
primary school

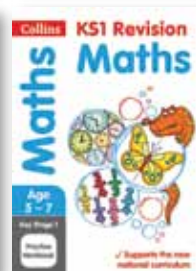
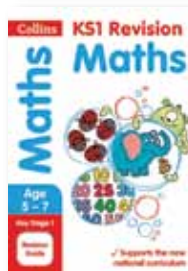
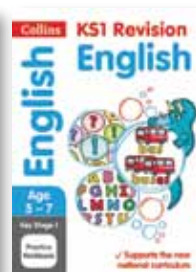
Overview of the Primary National  
Curriculum

Preparing for SATs

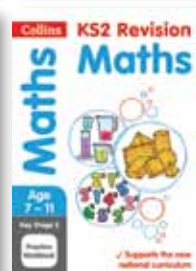
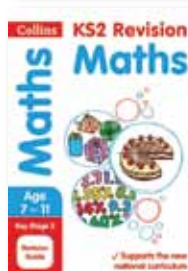
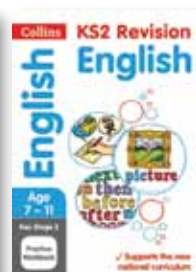


**FREE**

## KS1 SATs PREPARATION



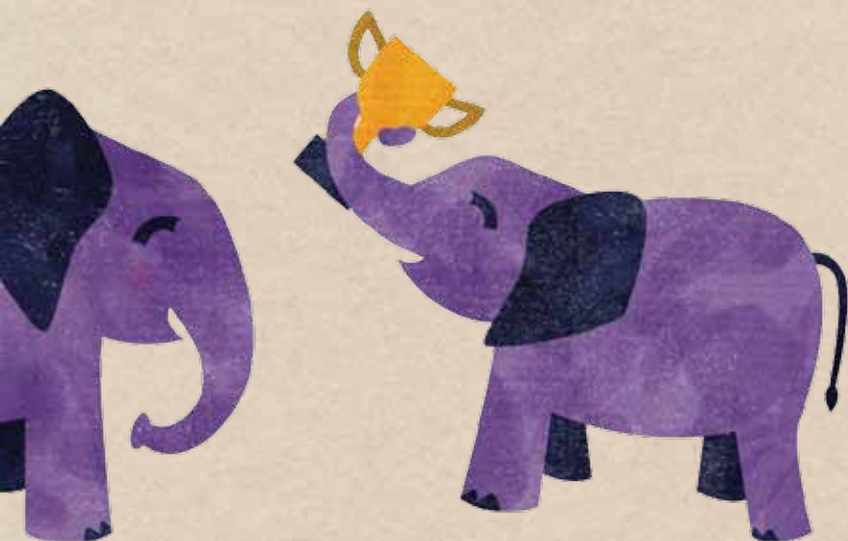
## KS2 SATs PREPARATION



Find out more and see the rest of the range at [collins.co.uk](http://collins.co.uk) and [lettsrevision.co.uk](http://lettsrevision.co.uk)

# CONTENTS

- 4 What to expect when your child starts primary school
- 5 The Primary Curriculum (Ages 5-11)
- 6 Supporting your child's learning at home
- 8 About SATs
- 13 Preparing for SATs



## What to expect when your child starts primary school

The first day at school is the start of an exciting adventure, filled with new discoveries and challenges. Like any new journey in life, it is always good to be prepared.

- Practise the school routine such as getting ready in the morning, getting dressed, and travelling to and from school.
- Establish the bedtime and morning routine that they will have when they start school in advance. Sleep is very important.
- Ensure your child has a good breakfast before leaving for school. Choosing breakfast foods that are rich in whole grains, fibre, and protein while low in added sugar can boost your child's attention span, concentration and memory — which they need to learn in school.
- Always say goodbye to your child and reassure them that you will be there to pick them up at the end of the school day.
- If your child is worried, ask them what would help them to feel better, for example, where they want to say goodbye, what they want to do after school etc.
- If you seem worried or 'different', your child will sense this and begin to worry too. Remember, you are sending your child on their journey to education and independence.
- Don't plan too many after-school activities for the first few weeks. Rest is very important, and so is free time to explore and play at home, especially when developing gross and fine motor skills.
- Be available to listen to your child. Children often like to say 'how their day went' straight after school. Be 'all ears'.

Schools expect children to take turns in both speaking and listening, do simple counting (e.g. up and down stairs, reading door numbers etc.), get dressed and undressed for PE, go to the toilet by themselves and pay attention. Keeping focused is often a challenge for young children starting 'big school', especially for learners who are very physical.

As a parent, you are establishing a new relationship with your child's school and their teacher. Visit the school beforehand. When a child is comfortable with their environment, they are more likely to feel at ease when learning. You may want to

attend the ‘preschool’ events with your child, such as ‘play and stay’ sessions; this will help familiarise your child with their new environment and school family/staff. Speak to the school about their expectations for behaviour and learning. Find out if the school has any ‘Golden Rules’ that you can start to use at home too. Most of all, be positive and encourage your child to embrace the whole school experience.

## The Primary Curriculum (Ages 5-11)

Every school is different and offers your child its own unique environment in which they can flourish and grow. This is an exciting and rewarding time for little ones who will develop enormously in terms of their emotional, social, physical and intellectual abilities.

The Primary Years are divided into Key Stages. Typically, a Primary school starts with Reception Year where children are taught the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). This gives children the foundations they need in key areas of learning before progressing onto Year 1 where Primary Curriculum teaching starts.

Early Years Foundation Stage	Reception Year
Key Stage 1	Year 1
	Year 2
Key Stage 2	Year 3
	Year 4
	Year 5
	Year 6

All state Primary schools follow the National Curriculum and must teach to its requirements. The National Curriculum has recently changed, with more emphasis on how much progress a child makes within a year group as well as from year-to-year. Although children’s performance is no longer benchmarked against levels, all children sit National Curriculum Tests or SATs at the end of each Key Stage and are expected to perform at national standards set by the Government.

There’s some more information about these later on.



# Supporting your child's learning at home

**If learning is fun, your child will be eager for more!** Make up rhymes to help remember times tables, play games to improve Maths skills and memory, and read stories together. Give your child lots of encouragement and praise, rewarding their efforts as well and their achievements.

**Read, read and then read some more.** Reading should be part of your daily routine. Bedtime stories provide an enchanting end to the day.

Most schools will follow a reading scheme and will often send books home in your child's book bag.

**Encourage play.** Through movement children learn about their world. They acquire self-confidence and self-esteem through play, especially in the motor domain. Provide your child with opportunities to play and discover. Get 'stuck in'!

**Look at homework tasks together,** talk about the activity and make sure they understand exactly what it is they need to do. Once they have finished, talk together about what they have learned and whether they found the activity difficult.

**Encourage your child to do 'little and often'** for the most benefit, so they do not get too tired – a day at school can be exhausting!

**Reassure your child that there is no reason for them to be frightened by testing;** be matter-of-fact about tests and just present them as a small part of your child's time at primary school.

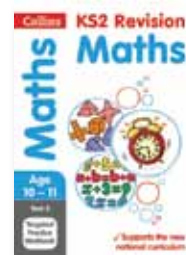
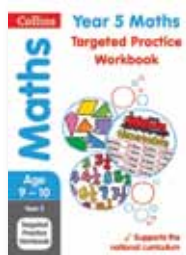
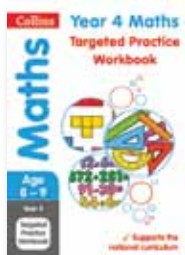
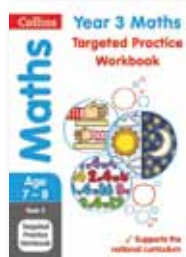
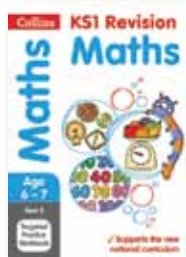
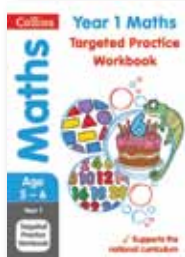
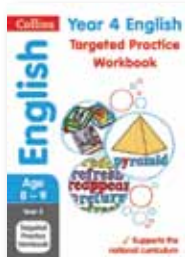
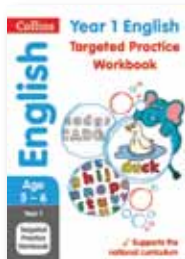
**Make sure you have a great selection of books at home** to help children with tricky spellings or to understanding the meaning of a word. Our range of KS1 and KS2 activity books, support the new National Curriculum and engage children in Maths and English topics taught at school.

**Letts Skills Practice Workbooks** include a variety of engaging activities to help children progress.



## RECOMMENDED:

Collins Targeted Practice Workbooks are a great way to check that your child is on track in key areas of the curriculum in English and maths.



## About SATs

A wide range of subjects and topics are taught during your child's primary education and schools will assess children's progress throughout their learning. National Curriculum Tests (SATs) are taken at the end of Year 2 and Year 6 in Reading, Mathematics (including Arithmetic and Reasoning), and Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling.

The Key Stage 1 tests are marked by teachers within the school; the Key Stage 2 tests are marked externally. Test results are reported as a scaled score, where 100 represents the 'national standard'. Other subjects will be assessed by your child's teacher based on their work throughout the year.

In Year 1, children are given a short, simple phonics assessment to make sure they have learned phonic decoding to an agreed standard by the age of 6. This phonics screening check helps teachers identify who needs extra help, so they can give them extra support to improve reading skills. These children re-take the assessment in Year 2.

**Letts 10-minute Tests** are a great way for children to practise in short bursts.



**Letts Challenging Maths and English** stretches your child to progress further than their expected level.



## Preparing for SATs

Although they are not the ‘be all and end all’ of your child’s education, the National Curriculum Tests (SATs) can potentially be quite stressful. Providing your child with some simple ‘steps to success’ will improve their confidence and help them to feel prepared. Create a ‘learning planner’ with your child focusing on the areas within the tested subjects that they struggle with. Vary the subjects daily and stick to a specified time and duration every day. Talk to your child when they have finished their task: ‘How do you feel that went?’ ‘Do you need any extra help?’ ‘What areas are you still struggling with?’

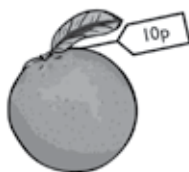
Encourage your child to stay calm. Use breathing exercises, open conversations, or even meditation to help dilute any negative feelings and eradicate the ‘stress’ side of the tests. To support this further, why not introduce your child to the ‘growth mindset’ concept, explaining how it is often our mistakes, errors and challenges in life that fuel our progress and development. Meaning, ‘it is okay not to be okay’. By making mistakes we often realise and identify areas to develop and improve.

Learning should be a fun process. Try to shape some of the key test objectives around the interests of your child. For example, with percentages, fractions and word problems, why not take your child shopping? By connecting knowledge with experience, things start to ‘make sense’ to children.

Make sure your child has a healthy breakfast (every morning) and drinks plenty of water.

Take a look at the sample test-style questions on the following pages to give you an idea about what to expect.

- 18** Pineapples cost 50p each. Oranges cost 10p each.



Adam buys 2 pineapples and 3 oranges.  
How much change does he get from £1.50?

Show  
your  
working

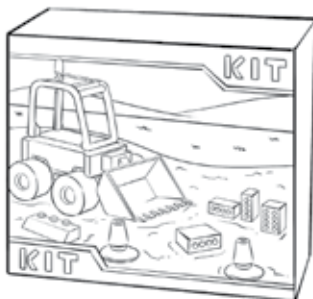
P

2 marks

- 19** There are 100 pieces in a kit.

14 pieces go missing.

How many pieces are left?



pieces

- 14** The verb in the box is in the present tense.

Write the **past tense** of the verb in the space.



Aisha's mum \_\_\_\_\_ very fast in the egg  
and spoon race.

- 15** Why does the underlined word have an apostrophe?

Put your books on the teacher's desk.

---

---

- 16** Write **was** or **were** to complete the sentence below correctly.

The birds \_\_\_\_\_ flying high up in the sky.

- 13 An aeroplane is flying at a height of 8,000 m.



The outside temperature is  $-45^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Inside the aeroplane the temperature is  $18^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

What is the **difference** between the two temperatures?

$^{\circ}\text{C}$

1 mark

- 14 The population of a city is 275,386.

- 54,895 are aged 65 and over.
- 143,706 are aged 18 to 64.

How many are aged under 18?

Show  
your  
method

2 marks

Questions 1–16 are about *A Mad Tea Party* (see pages 76–77 in the reading booklet).

- 1 Where is the scene set?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

- 2 Why is Alice very small?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

- 3 Look at the opening conversation.

**Find** and **copy** the clause Alice says just before she sits down at the table.

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

- 4 Which character offered Alice a drink?

Tick **one**.

the Hare ☐

the Hatter ☐

the Narrator ☐

the Dormouse ☐

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 mark

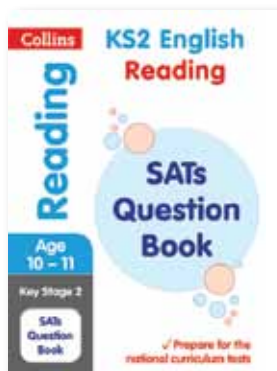
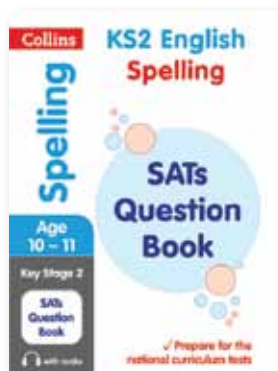
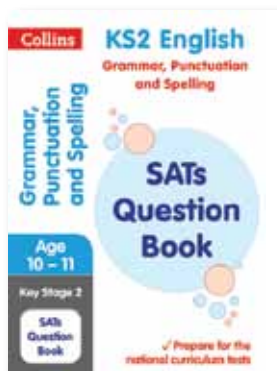
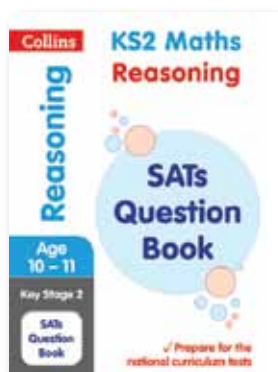
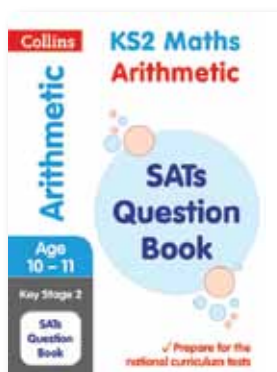


Collins and Letts learning books are ideal for revision and practice ahead of National Curriculum Tests (SATs).

**RECOMMENDED:**

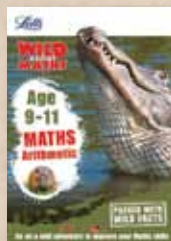
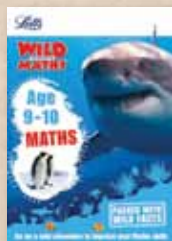
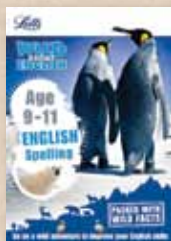
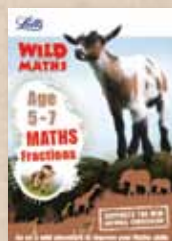
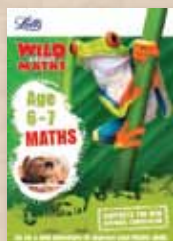
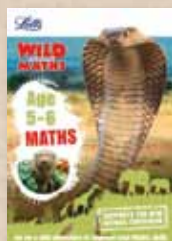
**Collins KS2 SATs  
Question Books**

provide realistic  
practice ahead of  
the tests.



*Also available*

**Letts Wild About** is a motivating way to practise maths and English skills and discover amazing animals along the way!



*Find out more at:*  
[collins.co.uk/parents](http://collins.co.uk/parents)  
[lettsrevision.co.uk](http://lettsrevision.co.uk)

# Collins

*Letts*

*Discover the full range of Collins and Letts  
books to support 3 to 18 year-olds at*

collins.co.uk/revision

*and*

lettsrevision.co.uk



@collins4parents



@lettsed



ISBN 978-0-00-796231-0



9 780007 962310 >