

SATS Revision and Test Paper Help – Year 4

Children in years 3, 4 and 5 will face end of year exams which mimic SATS questions and topics. Children in year 6 will face the actual SATS test.

- Parents usually come to this from two directions. There will be those who have not done any additional work with their children prior to approaching end of year exams, and there will be those who have done some work with their children during the year in addition to work given out by the school.
- Below you'll find some suggestions on what you could do in both cases.

Parents who just want to help their children in the run in to the exams

Time is the governing factor here so what we have done is to split this into two parts, one for those who just want to do some test questions and one for those who can work for a while longer and want to help with some improvement work.

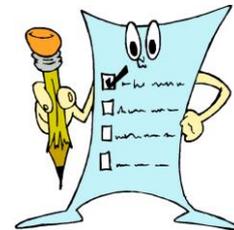


Using Papers in the last few weeks to help children:

This advice is useful for parents who have little time and just want to do something in the last few weeks AND it is useful for parents who have helped their children quite a lot and want to help a little more with exam preparation.

Firstly we would caution all parents to be aware of what their school is doing. Some do intensive preparation in the run up to the exams, so doing more at home in the last few weeks may not be helpful. Where there is an opportunity to help we'd suggest using the following test packs - links to purchase on the main site:

- [Scholastic Reading tests year four](#)
- [Scholastic Maths tests year four](#)
- [Scholastic Grammar Spelling Punctuation tests year four](#)



When doing these tests we'd suggest you set them up with exam conditions (quiet room, no distractions).

Remember the value from doing these tests comes mainly from rapid marking and feedback - as soon as your child has finished a test, mark it and sit down with them and run over the mistakes so they can understand where they went wrong.

If you have a little more time then also buy the following two books which can be found on our year six books page:

- [Scholastic English National Curriculum year four practice](#)
- [Scholastic Maths National Curriculum year four practice](#)



If you are only doing the papers then use these books to dive into topics where mistakes are being made so that you can ensure that your child understands where they went wrong in the tests and then does some more practice questions on that topic.

As an example if in the tests they struggle with the use of the full stop then dive into the English practice book and do the related exercises. This kind of targeted gap filling can work very well for parents with only a little time available but who want to make a difference.

Using Papers in the last few weeks to help children PLUS Revision

For parents working over a longer period than just the last couple of months you can have a more structured preparation that includes some sharpening of the core skills.

Sample half-hour a day revision schedule for exam and revision work lasting two months or more

Stage One (all books listed in [Year 4 Maths Books](#) and [Year 4 English Books](#)):

- 1 Page of Schofield and Sims Mental Arithmetic 2 (this will take 1 half-hour slot during the week)
- 1 or 2 pages of Scholastic Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation (this will take 1 half-hour slot during the week)
- Gap filling- Do 1 page of Scholastic Maths National Curriculum Year four practice focussing on an item your child struggles with. (this will take 1 half-hour slot during the week)
- Gap filling- Do 1 page of Scholastic English National Curriculum year four practice focussing on an item your child struggles with (this will take 1 Half hour slot during the week)
- Maths problem Solving- Do 1 page of Carol Vorderman Maths Problem Solving 7-9 (this will take 1 half hour slot during the week)
- For the remaining 2 half-hour slots during the week focus on a mix of times tables work and paired reading- remembering of course that reading should be happening anyway for at least half an hour in the evenings.



Stage Two:

- With about one month to go, replace the mental Maths and Maths problems sessions with a paper from three [suggested test paper packs](#).
- Mark the paper as soon as it has been done and where mistakes lead you to think that there are knowledge gaps then make these the focus of your two gap filling sessions.
- So your week will involve two sample test papers, two gap filling sessions and a further session on Grammar, Spelling and Punctuation revision. Additionally you will continue working on times tables and paired reading and reading as part of the basics development work.
- NB If more mistake areas are being identified than you feel you can cope with then stop the GSP revision work and add in another gap filling session.



Remember:

If your objective has been to help your child improve by doing some revision and exam work with them then you cannot expect to cover everything. Just work calmly for no more than half an hour everyday working through the major gaps as they emerge. If your child has (as an example) 25 areas they are less secure on and you have helped them with ten or fifteen of these by the end of the process, then you will have achieved a great deal.

