

# Dice Activities for Multiplication

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## Activity 1: Roll a Product

Use this quick activity for centers or during transitions to build fluency with multiplication facts.

Materials: Two or three dice per student or group

Instructions:

- The first student rolls two dice.
- The student then multiplies the numbers together and states the product out loud. For example, "Two times three is six."
- If working in pairs or groups, the next student then takes their turn.
- Continue alternating turns until a predetermined time or number of turns is met.

Extension:

- Have students roll three dice and multiply all three numbers together.
- Use ten- or twelve-sided dice to extend the range of the practice activity.

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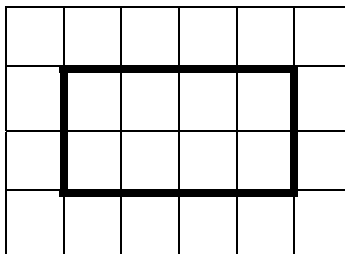
## Activity 2: Area Models

This activity helps students build their conceptual understanding of multiplication as they relate the factors to area models.

Materials: Two dice per student or group; grid paper or erasable grid mats and markers.

Instructions:

- The first student rolls two dice.
- Using grid paper or an erasable grid mat, the student then outlines an array using the two numbers as factors. For example, if the student rolled a 2 and 4, their array might look like this:



- The student then finds the area of their array and writes it inside. Some students will immediately multiply the factors, while others may count the squares; either approach is appropriate to start.
- If working in groups, the next student then takes their turn.
- Continue alternating turns until all the arrays have been drawn.

Some guiding questions:

- Are there any arrays that have the same area? Why?
- Are there any factor pairs that have only one model? Which ones?

