

Activities to develop understanding of Time

Timelines:

Children use the till rolls to make a timeline of their life. How will it be marked out? How will events be shown? How will long term events such as time spent at school be shown?

Adaptations could be: a timeline for your ideal day, one for your whole family, a Saturday timeline based on favourite TV shows.

Estimating Units:

Use flashbacks or whiteboards to respond to questioning based on appropriate units eg. "what units would you use to measure the time taken to ... make a cup of tea, read a book ..."

Length of a minute:

Hide all clocks and watches and try to estimate when a minute is up by raising hands. Say who was the closest and then try it again.

Try and think of an activity that will take one minute to do 60 times eg, dropping cubes into a box or saying a particular word. Work in pairs to test and time the activities.

Alive:

"Have you been alive for a million seconds?" Use calculators and knowledge of units of time to find an answer.

Alternatives:

How many weeks (or months) have you been alive?

Have you been alive for 1000 days?

How many years do all the ages of your family add up to? Will your family every be a century old? When?

How long does it take your heart to beat a million times?

How much of your life have you spent cleaning your teeth/sleeping/watching TV?

How long do you spend at school in a year?