

Multiplication Readers Theatre Script

Developed with Dr. Rosalind M. Flynn by Teachers attending The Peace Center for the Performing Arts, Greenville, SC Summer Teacher Institute 2005

1	What is multiplication?	2	A fast way [sound effect] [gesture]
All	Multiplication?	3	A quick way [sound effect] [gesture]
2	It's a fast way [sound effect] [gesture]	4	A grown up way [gesture]
3	A quick way [sound effect] [gesture]	6	To add equal groups
4	A grown up way [gesture]	1	over
6	To add equal groups	2	and over
1	over	3	and over
2	and over	4	and over
3	and over	5	and over again!
4	and over	6	Four hands!
5	and over again!	1	That's 4 groups of 5
3,4	We still don't get it!	All	4 times 5.
2	Okay, let's try it.	1	5 [first hand out]
5	Give me a hand.	2	plus 5 [second hand out]
All	[applaud]	3	plus 5 [third hand out]
5	Ha ha... [sarcastic] I mean, show me a hand.	4	plus 5 [fourth hand out]
3	[Hold out hand.]	1	5 [first hand out]
6	How many fingers are on one hand?	2	10 [second hand out]
All	Five.	3	15 [third hand out]
6	Great! That's one group of five.	4	20 [fourth hand out]
3	Hey, we just did multiplication!	All	4 times 5 equal 20! Multiplication!
5	Yeah, that was one times five.	2	A fast way [sound effect] [gesture]
4	Time? [gesture—point to watch.]	3	A quick way [sound effect] [gesture]
5	No, not your watch.	4	A grown up way [gesture]
All	Times—[gesture] another way to say "groups of."	6	To add equal groups
1	One—[gesture]—times five equals one group of five.	1	over
All	Got it! [gesture]	2	and over
5	OK, give me another hand.	3	and over
All	[Applaud again.]	4	and over
5	Oh, very funny. How about 4 hands?	5	and over again!
1-4	[Each hold out one hand.]	All	Multiplication! We get it! [Gesture— stretch arms, stretch fingers, bow.]
6	How can we figure out how many fingers are on all 4 hands?		
1	Oh, I know!		
All	Multiplication!		

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