

Never stop learning

Biblical Material: Proverbs: 4.13, 19.27

‘Hold on to what you learn, for your education is your life.’

‘When you stop learning, you soon neglect what you already know.’

You will need:

- A calculator.
- A sheet of paper and a thick felt-tipped pen.
- Some clean pebbles (optional).

Introduction

Talk with pupils about the length of time they spend in school. Using the calculator, pupils can calculate the minimum time spent in school in hours and write them up:

6 hours a day
5 days a week
39 weeks a year
11 years minimum

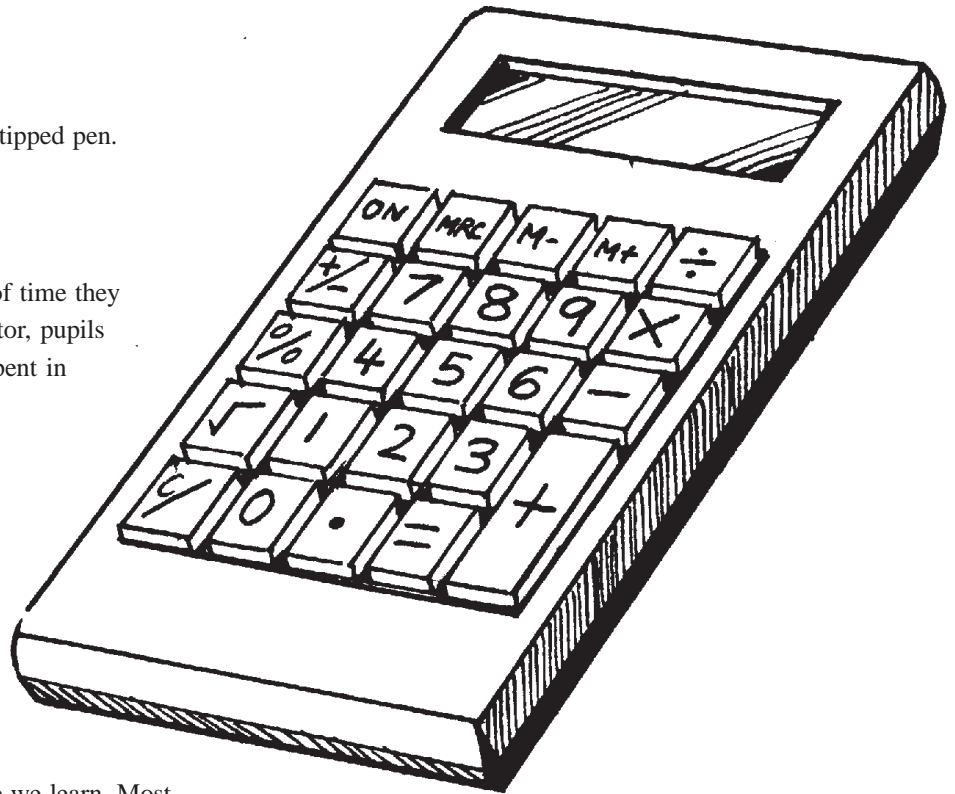
Core Material

Read the Biblical Material. Time spent in school is not the only time we learn. Most of a person’s learning is done between 0-5 years. Talk with the pupils about the type of things we learn then. Learning goes on for ever. Teachers might like to talk with pupils about what people can learn during the following activities:

- Playing with friends and family, and leisure activities.
- TV/reading/eating etc.
- Time spent helping: tidying room, shopping etc.
- At Church/Sunday school.

In the Bible education is about a way of life. Christians believe God has filled the world with things to discover - about himself and the way he made the world.

However long people live, they only ever find out a little about the world. The great scientist Isaac Newton, who discovered gravity, was a Christian. He said he felt like a small boy who had managed to pick up a few pebbles of knowledge from a vast beach. As a Christian, Newton felt that life was a journey of discovery and learning which never ended.



Prayer/Reflection

Ask pupils to close their eyes and imagine a vast beach full of pebbles. Some may have been on holiday to such a beach. Suggest that they imagine themselves bending down and picking up one pebble. Newton thought that each piece of knowledge was like picking up a pebble from a huge beach. Ask pupils to think quietly about things they have discovered or learnt.

Lord, you have crammed the world full of things to discover and learn. Teach us that the excitement of discovery never ends.

Note: if you have some clean pebbles pupils can write on them things they have learnt which excited them or made them full of wonder. A pebble display can become a focus for reflection.

Note. For guidance on prayers and reflections see pages 9-11.