

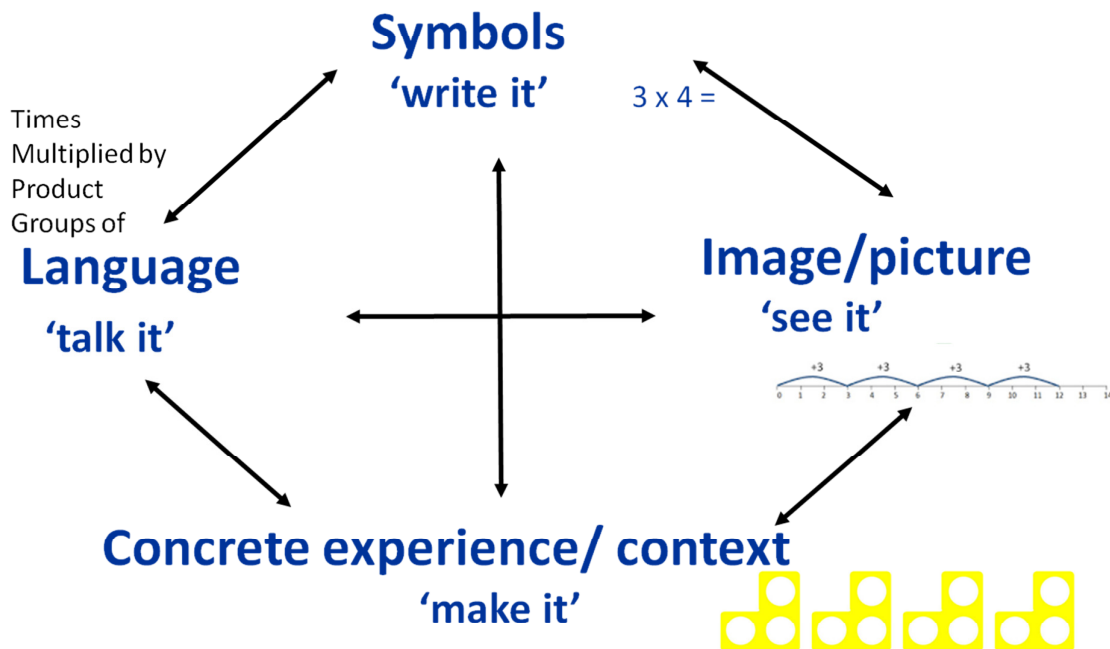
A Mastery approach to teaching

A Mastery approach to teaching mathematics requires all children to develop a deep understanding of concepts. Depth of understanding is demonstrated by ‘unpicking’ concepts so that children can recognise and apply their knowledge in different contexts and situations. Children have experience of and understand a concept in a variation of ways and develop fluency by making links through intelligent practice (e.g. $7 \times 3 = 21$ leads to knowing $70 \times 3 = 210$ and $3 \times 70 = 210$ and $3 \times 7 \times 10 = 210$).

Depth and mastery of a concept is evidenced when a child can ‘see it’, ‘draw it’, ‘make it’ and ‘write it’ (see making Connections diagram) and makes connections between all these representations.

Some children demonstrate greater depth , mastery and creative thinking and can apply their knowledge and understanding to solve complex problems and investigations.

Making Connections



Derek Haylock and Anne Cockburn, 2008