

Days of the week: the week goes round

CURRICULUM ALIGNMENT

MEA.TIM.2a understand how time is measured, expressed and represented.

INTERACTIVES Drag Sort · challenge, display, explore

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The seven named days always come in the same order: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

→ School days run Monday to Friday; the weekend is Saturday and Sunday.

→ If today is Sunday, tomorrow is Monday.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

LINING UP THE DAY CARDS

- 1 Line up the five school days first: **Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.**
- 2 Add the two weekend days after the school days: **Saturday** then **Sunday.**
- 3 After Sunday the week goes round again to **Monday.**

LESSON ARC

Open by singing the days-of-the-week song, then reveal the jumbled day cards on the IWB. Line the five school days first, add Saturday and Sunday, then drop Monday again so the class sees the week go round. Pupils take turns dragging the full set into order; everyone writes the two weekend days in their copybook. Class Challenge keeps the board turns brisk. Close on one question: what always comes after Sunday?

TEACHING MOVES

1. **Getting Started.** Sing the days song once through together. Reveal the jumbled day cards and take three quick hands-up guesses for which day should come first — do not correct yet. The hook is the mess, not the answer.
2. **Watch and Notice.** Reveal one card at a time. Pause before each drop so the class can call the next day. Line Monday to Friday first, then add Saturday and Sunday. Place Monday again in the next bucket and hold: 'After Sunday... Monday. The week goes round.' If a card lands wrong, leave it a beat, then mend it while the class chants the break.
3. **Try It Together.** Pupils take turns at the board ordering all seven from Monday. Call the days in a jumbled order so the pupil must think, not chant. Watch Friday into Saturday — that is where school-day order meets the weekend. Class says the finished line aloud to check.
4. **Write the weekend days.** Whole-class copybook: write Saturday and Sunday. Walk the row for careful letter formation — Saturday is the longer word. This is practice, not marking.
5. **Class Challenge.** Brisk board turns only — check each answer as you go, no re-teaching. On the full-week round ask once: what comes after Sunday? Hold for Monday. A pupil can hold a printed day card while another drags on screen if that helps the class track.

6. What Did We Notice?. Ask: 'What day always comes after Sunday?' Listen for Monday and for the week beginning again. Re-voice: 'So after Sunday we go back to Monday, and the week goes round.' If someone says nothing comes after Sunday, walk Friday → Monday on the board line once more.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

⚠ Pupils say nothing comes after Sunday — they treat the week as a finished list that stops.

Point to the full-week line with Monday already sitting in the next bucket. Walk Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday with your finger and have the class chant it once.

⚠ Pupils put Sunday before Saturday, or slot both weekend days somewhere in the middle of the school days.

Hold the five school-day cards as one block. Ask: 'Which two days sit after the school days?' Only then place Saturday, then Sunday.

⚠ Pupils start the ordered line on Sunday because a home calendar shows Sunday first.

Name the difference out loud: 'Some calendars start on Sunday; our school week starts on Monday.' Rebuild from Monday on the day cards so the class owns the school order.

DIFFERENTIATION

EMERGING

- Keep only the five school-day cards in play until those land in order; add Saturday and Sunday as a second, teacher-supported pass.
- Pre-place Monday on the week strip so the pupil at the board only has six cards left to seat.

DEVELOPING

- After a clean full-week line, cover one card and ask the class which day is hidden before revealing.
- Give a 'today is Thursday — what is two days after?' oral check before the next board turn.

PROFICIENT

- Stretch on the board: 'If today is Sunday, what day is three days after?' — still whole-class, still using the week strip.
- Ask them to justify why the week must go round, using the Monday-after-Sunday bucket as evidence, before the maths-talk close.

✓ **Cross-curricular:** Link to Gaeilge — chant Dé Luain to Dé Domhnaigh once beside the English day cards on the week strip.

ANSWER KEY

Q1: Wednesday

Q2: Saturday and Sunday

Q3: Tuesday

Q4: Saturday

Q5: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

Q6: Monday

a) Always : The days of the week always keep this fixed order.

b) Never : Saturday is always one of the two weekend days.

c) Always : Saturday always follows Friday in the week.

d) Never : The weekend is always only Saturday and Sunday.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: Wednesday

S2: Sunday

S3: Wednesday

S4: Sunday