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Multiplicative thinking: much more than knowing multiplication facts and procedures.

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Summary: Multiplicative thinking is accepted as a “big idea” of mathematics that underpins important mathematical concepts such as fraction understanding, proportional reasoning, and algebraic thinking. It is characterised by understandings such as the multiplicative relationship between places in the number system, basic and extended number facts, and properties of operations and associated relationships. Using examples from a current Year 6 research project, this article highlights the importance of a combination of conceptual understanding and procedural fluency in developing multiplicative thinkers. (ERIC)

Classification: F30 C30

Keywords: multiplication; multiplicative thinking; mathematical concepts; multiplication facts; procedures