Primary 3 Math Tuition — Checklist & Fast-Start Guide

Use this checklist to strengthen foundations, reduce careless mistakes, and build confident problem-solving. It is aligned to Singapore's Primary Mathematics syllabus and designed for quick weekly progress.

Why tuition with us (Bukit Timah): small groups (max 3 students), clear step-by-step methods, and weekly feedback so your child improves steadily.
WhatsApp +65 8823 1234 (scan the QR in the banner). Consultations are by appointment; trial lessons may be available when a 3-student slot opens.

Quick Start: 8 checks for this week

[ ]	**Place value:** reads and compares big numbers; explains the value of each digit.
[ ]	**Fluency:** adds/subtracts confidently; times tables foundation is stable (and improving).
[ ]	**Multiply/divide meaning:** can explain groups/sharing and the remainder.
[ ]	**Fractions:** understands parts of a whole; compares simple fractions using models.
[ ]	**Units & time:** chooses the correct unit; handles start-end-duration questions.
[ ]	**Graphs:** reads bar graphs correctly even when the scale jumps (2s/5s/10s).
[ ]	**Word problems:** underlines what is asked; draws a model/diagram before calculating.
[ ]	**Error log:** writes "mistake → reason → fix" and redoes that question type weekly.

How we want the best for our P3 Math students

[ ]	Understanding first, then speed (no rushed guessing).
[ ]	Clear methods: models, diagrams, neat working, and checking habits.
[ ]	Targeted practice: fix weaknesses early before they become "fear topics".
[ ]	Confidence & consistency: small weekly wins build long-term results.

What Primary 3 Mathematics Is (and what to focus on)

Primary 3 is where maths becomes more structured: bigger numbers, multi-step problems, and fractions that set up later ratio and algebra. The syllabus is organised into three strands.

Number & Algebra Whole numbers, operations, factors/multiples, fractions.	**Measurement & Geometry** Units & conversion, time, area & perimeter, angles, lines.	**Statistics** Reading and interpreting bar graphs, including different scales.

Primary 3 mastery map (high-yield topics)

Number & Algebra	Numbers up to 100,000 • multiplication/division (incl. remainder) • factors/multiples (within 100) • fractions (mixed/improper; fraction of a set; add/sub within syllabus scope)
Measurement & Geometry	Unit conversion in compound units • 24-hour time & elapsed time • perimeter & area (cm^2/m^2) • angles • parallel/perpendicular lines
Statistics	Bar graphs, especially reading accurately with different scales

How to access MOE/SEAB information (official sources)

[ ]	MOE syllabus index: MOE Primary curriculum syllabuses
[ ]	Official syllabus PDF (updated Dec 2024): Primary Mathematics Syllabus (P1-P6)
[ ]	In the PDF, go to “Content by Levels” → Primary 3.
[ ]	SEAB PSLE overview (for long-term context): SEAB PSLE hub
[ ]	PSLE Mathematics syllabus (assessment objectives): SEAB 0008 PSLE Maths syllabus

Parent tip: Use the syllabus as the “destination”, then use your child’s school worksheets/tests as the “route” for weekly practice.

High-Impact Skills & Common Mistakes

The fastest improvement in P3 comes from (1) strong representations, (2) correct units, and (3) clean multi-step reasoning.

4 non-negotiables

- [ ] **Rounding & estimation:** sanity-check answers quickly.
- [ ] **Remainder sense:** knows when to round up/down in real situations.
- [ ] **Fraction sense:** uses models to compare and to add/subtract correctly.
- [ ] **Units & neat working:** correct units every time; aligned digits, clear steps.

5 mistakes that cost the most marks

- [ ] **Graph scale misread** → mark the jump size before reading bars.
- [ ] **Wrong operation from "keyword traps"** → draw a model; answer: "what is asked?"
- [ ] **Unit missing/wrong** → circle units first; write unit beside final answer.
- [ ] **Careless digits** → use place-value columns / squared paper for long operations.
- [ ] **Remainder mishandled** → decide: complete groups (round up) vs leftover (keep remainder).

4 heuristics to teach your child

- [ ] **Bar model:** for comparison, part-whole, before-after.
- [ ] **Work backwards:** when final result is given after steps.
- [ ] **Systematic listing:** when there are many possibilities.
- [ ] **Estimate to check:** round numbers to verify reasonableness.

10-Week Mastery Plan (consistent, realistic)

Short practice 4–5 days/week works better than long cramming. Keep sessions focused and stop early once the child is making repeated careless mistakes.

Weekly rhythm

- [ ] 2× weekdays: 15–20 min fluency + 1 word problem
- [ ] 1× weekday: 20–30 min topic focus + corrections
- [ ] Weekend: 45–60 min mixed practice + error log review

10-week focus map

Weeks 1–2	Diagnose gaps; rebuild place value + core operations; fix neat working.
Weeks 3–4	Multiply/divide mastery + remainder meaning + 2-step word problems.
Weeks 5–6	Measurement: unit conversion, time, perimeter/area; practise mixed word problems.
Weeks 7–8	Fractions: mixed/improper, fraction of a set, add/sub within scope.
Weeks 9–10	Mixed revision + timed mini-papers + reduce careless mistakes via error log.

Parent dashboard (simple metrics)

- [ ] **Accuracy:** 85% → 95% (reduce avoidable mistakes first).
- [ ] **Representation:** draws a model for word problems.
- [ ] **Checking:** units + estimation habit is automatic.
- [ ] **Reflection:** keeps an error log and revisits weekly.

Before the next test: 6-point exam readiness checklist

Use this list 7 days before a school test to keep revision focused and calm.

[ ]	I can do the current topic’s basics without help.
[ ]	I can explain my method in 1–2 sentences.
[ ]	I check units (especially cm²/m² for area) and estimate to verify.
[ ]	I can solve at least 3 mixed word problems with clear models.
[ ]	I redo my top 3 error-log mistakes correctly.
[ ]	I can finish a short timed set and still check for careless errors.

Resources

[ ]	Source webpage (BukitTimahTutor.com)
[ ]	MOE Primary curriculum syllabuses
[ ]	MOE Primary Mathematics Syllabus (PDF, updated Dec 2024)
[ ]	SEAB PSLE hub
[ ]	SEAB PSLE Mathematics syllabus (0008)

Need help? WhatsApp +65 8823 1234 for a consultation. We’ll diagnose gaps, build confidence, and align practice to your school’s pacing — with clear feedback each week.