

1st Grade Math: Telling Time to the Half Hour

Objective: Students will learn how to read and tell time to the half hour on both analog and digital clocks.

What is Half Past the Hour?

When the minute hand points to **6**, the clock shows **half past** the hour. This means that **30 minutes** have passed since the last o'clock time. For example, when the time is **2:30**, it means 30 minutes have passed since 2 o'clock.

Parts of a Clock

To tell time to the half hour, let's review the parts of a clock:

1. **Hour Hand** (short hand) – Tells the hour.
2. **Minute Hand** (long hand) – Tells the minutes.

When the minute hand points to **12**, it is on the hour. When the minute hand points to **6**, it is half past the hour, or **:30** minutes.

Reading Time to the Half Hour on an Analog Clock

1. **Look at the Hour Hand** (short hand):
 - See which number it is between. If the hour hand is between two numbers, look at the smaller number. This is the hour.
2. **Look at the Minute Hand** (long hand):
 - If the minute hand is on **6**, it shows 30 minutes past the hour. This is called **half past** the hour.

Example:

- If the hour hand is between **2** and **3** and the minute hand is on **6**, it is **2:30**, or **half past two**.

Other Examples:

- If the hour hand is between **5** and **6** and the minute hand is on **6**, it is **5:30**.
- If the hour hand is between **9** and **10** and the minute hand is on **6**, it is **9:30**.

Reading Time to the Half Hour on a Digital Clock

A **digital clock** shows the time with numbers:

- The first set of numbers shows the hour.
- The second set of numbers shows the minutes.
- When the clock shows **:30**, it means 30 minutes have passed since the hour.

Example:

- **3:30** means it is half past 3.
- **7:30** means it is half past 7.

Activities for Learning Time to the Half Hour

1. **Match the Time:**
 - Show students a picture of an analog clock showing half past a time (like 4:30) and ask them to match it to a digital clock showing **4:30**.
2. **What Time is it?**
 - Show students an analog clock with different half-hour times (like 2:30, 6:30, 8:30) and ask them to say what time it shows.
3. **Set the Clock:**
 - Give students a small clock where they can move the hour and minute hands. Call out a time (like 5:30) and have them set the hands to show the correct time.

Real-World Applications

- We use time to know when events happen, such as starting a movie at 7:30.
- Time helps us plan our day, such as snack time at 10:30 or playtime at 3:30.
- We use time to make appointments, like visiting the doctor at 2:30.

Practice Questions

1. What time does the clock show if the hour hand is between 8 and 9 and the minute hand is on 6?
2. If the digital clock says **10:30**, what time is it?
3. What time is it when the hour hand is between 4 and 5 and the minute hand is on 6?
4. Set your clock to show **7:30**.
5. What happens at 5:30 in the evening?

Summary

Telling time to the half hour helps us understand when events are halfway between two o'clock times. By reading both analog and digital clocks, we can see when it is **half past** the hour and be on time for important activities!