



Try this fun maths activity

The magic pot works as a function machine to double each number placed inside (input).

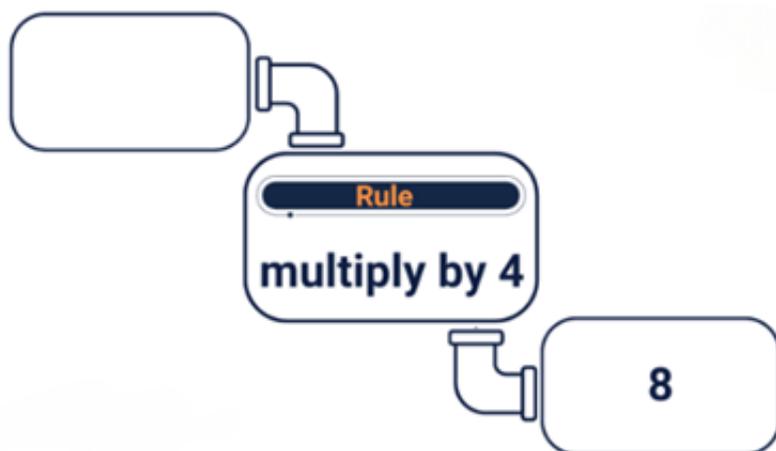
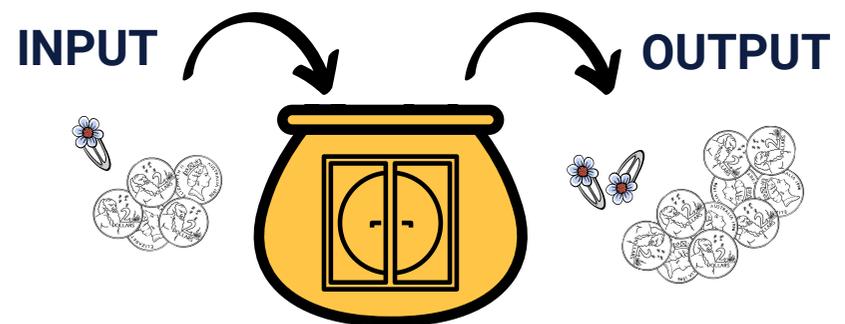
Numbers in come out doubled

INPUT	OUTPUT
4	8
8	16
16	32

Numbers in come out halved

OUTPUT	INPUT
4	8
8	16
16	32

Students choose a number between 1 and 10 to place into the magic pot. What number comes out (output)? They can record the answers on a table with two columns labelled input and output.



Pose questions

- What happens when the numbers go through the function machine?
- What is the rule in the machine?
- What happens when we work backwards?
- Which operation is required?

Find more details on this and other Algebra lesson ideas in the free Maths in Schools 3 - 6 online course.