

Clock Hands, Turns and Direction

Elaboration 3 · Linking hours on a clock to the size and direction of a turn

ELABORATION FOCUS

Investigating how the hands turn on a clock, and relating quarter, half and full hours to the size of the turn and the language of clockwise and anticlockwise.

LEARNING INTENTION I can name a turn as clockwise or anticlockwise.

Watch it

Clockwise

Quarter

Half

Full hour

1

Watch the Hand

Step 1: watch the big hand move. Step 2: it always turns the same way.

2

Name the Direction

Step 3: that way is called clockwise. Step 4: the other way is anticlockwise.

3

Match Turn to Time

Step 5: a quarter turn is 15 minutes. Step 6: a full turn is one whole hour.

MODEL · TURNS AND TIME ON A CLOCK

A quarter turn of the big hand is quarter past. A full turn is one whole hour.



Quarter turn

15 minutes — quarter past



Half turn

30 minutes — half past



Full turn

60 minutes — one hour

Clock hands always turn clockwise, so a bigger turn always means more time has passed.

TEACHER MODELLING ROUTINE

I do → We do → You do

WATCH FOR

Mixing up clockwise and anticlockwise when describing which way a hand moved.

REMEMBER

Say it to students as: "Clockwise is the way the clock hands go."

MATERIALS

Geared demonstration clock, paper plate clocks, arrow cards, a stopwatch.

Teacher note: anticlockwise never happens on a working clock, so give students a reason to use it, such as winding a hand backwards to show an earlier time.