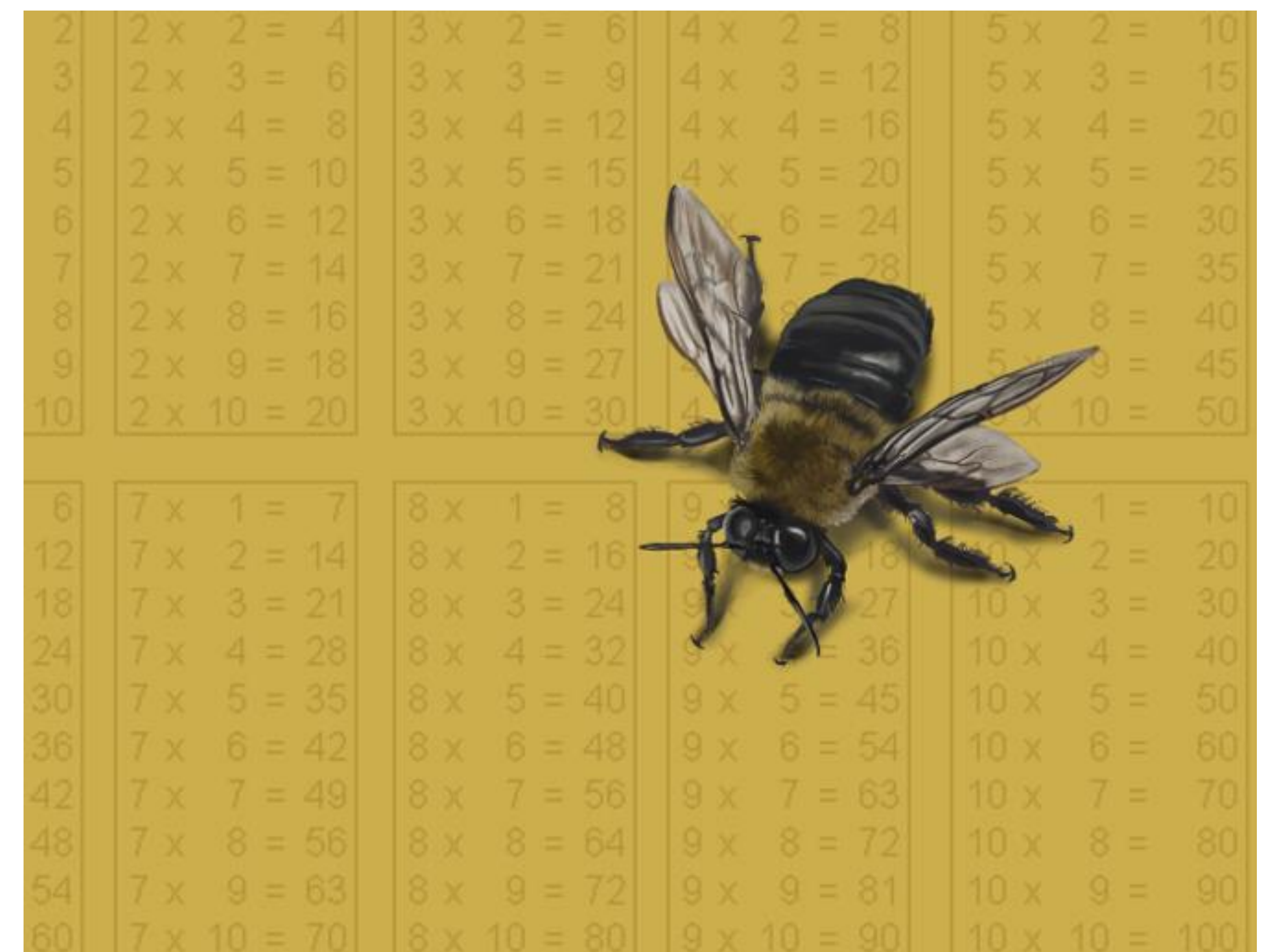


44 Multiplication Rap... & a Bee

A bumble bee is trapped inside a room. It can see freedom outside, through the window, which is closed. The bee heads (makes a beeline?) for the window, and crashes into the window pane, and falls to the window sill, dazed. Catching it's breath, it dusts down



The key to learning is often finding the right learning strategy for that individual.

its wings, flies off the sill, circles the room, and once more hurls itself into the window pane – with the same results.

Further along the room was another window – open.

Nathan, was struggling to learn his multiplication tables. The school's strategy was to provide them and leave each pupil to it. Nathan found learning

lists too taxing and boring, and easily gave up.

Nathan insisted he couldn't learn them, and was becoming increasingly frustrated and demoralised, as he fell behind his friends.

I noticed there was nothing wrong with his memory, particularly when it came to singing along to pop songs. He was particularly interested in 'rap', chanting along to the beat... and this gave me an idea...

I got some friends to make me a 'rap' instrumental, and I dubbed over the top the multiplication tables, leaving space for Nathan to join in.

Yes, very cheesy. But he had the multiplication tables nailed within a fortnight.

The key to learning is often finding the right learning strategy for that individual. We do not all access the same route to learning. What works for one, may well not work for another. People might be written off as 'poor

learners' when in fact, all they need is a different learning strategy.

And as for the bee? I caught it using the glass and card trick, and set it free.

Everyone
(and everything)
needs a little
help sometimes,
to find the right
way forward.

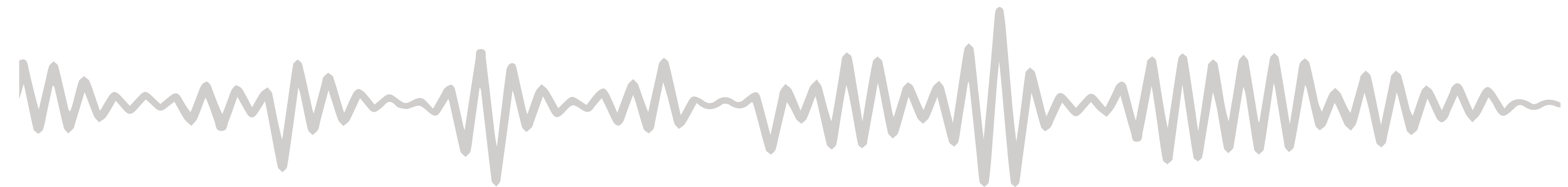
“If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten” (R. Kipling)

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