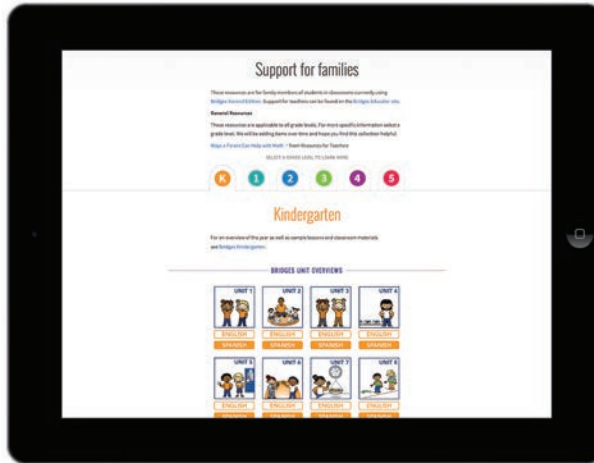




## What can I do to help?

Visit the “Support For Families” page on the *Math Learning Center* website where you can access math games, free math apps and more grade level specific resources.

[mathlearningcenter.org/support/bridges](http://mathlearningcenter.org/support/bridges)

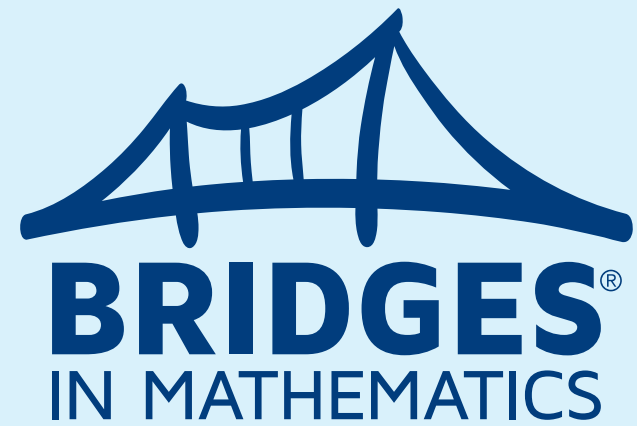


- Read the unit overviews that are available on the “Support For Families” page. These will provide an explanation of what your child will be learning in each unit and show some examples of visual models that will be used.
- Have your child explain her assignment to you. If she can describe the task clearly, she can probably complete the assignment independently. Make yourself available but only assist when necessary.
- When helping your child with homework or school assignments, ask him to explain how he acquired an answer.
- When an assignment is challenging consider doing it in parts with a break in between.

## What can I expect?

Students in a Bridges math class will:

- Be actively engaged in learning.
- Talk about math, describe observations, explain methods, and ask questions.
- Be encouraged to find multiple ways to solve problems and show different ways of thinking.
- Use hands-on activities with models and manipulatives to explore, develop, test, discuss, and apply ideas to understand how math concepts work.
- Develop a deep understanding of mathematical concepts before being introduced to the standard algorithms and rules.
- Be assigned homework for independent practice approximately 2–3 times per week.



**IN CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS**





## What is Bridges in Mathematics?

*Bridges in Mathematics* second edition, is a comprehensive K–5 curriculum designed to address math standards in a manner that is rigorous, coherent, engaging, and accessible to all learners.

## Why Bridges?

*Bridges in Mathematics* is both research based and field tested. It was developed through the *Math Learning Center*; an organization originally funded by The National Science Foundation to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics. *Bridges* students become confident mathematical thinkers and motivated learners with the ability to explore new ideas and articulate their insights and questions.

## How does Bridges work in my child's classroom?

The curriculum focuses on developing students' deep understanding of mathematical concepts, proficiency with key skills, and ability to solve complex and novel problems. A *Bridges* classroom is active. Learning activities tap into the intelligence and strengths of all students by presenting material that is as linguistically, visually, and kinesthetically rich as it is mathematically powerful.

## PROGRAM COMPONENTS

*Bridges* features a combination of whole-group, small-group, and independent activities that are problem centered.

### Problems & Investigations

Problems and Investigations often begin with a problem posed to the whole class. Students think and work independently for a period of time or talk in pairs before sharing and comparing strategies and solutions as a whole class. The teacher monitors and steers the class discussion to make sure that important mathematical concepts are introduced.

### Work Places

Math exploration stations offer engaging activities that reinforce key skills. Small group observations and interactions enable the teacher to address students' needs for support and enrichment.

## Number Corner

Number Corner is a skill-building program that revolves around the classroom calendar, providing daily practice as well as continual encounters with broader mathematical concepts.



### Number Corner Develops:

- Computational Fluency
- Patterning Skills
- Estimation
- Place Value
- Measurement and Data Collection
- Problem-Solving

## Assessments

*Bridges in Mathematics* includes a wide variety of developmentally appropriate assessments for each grade level including interviews, observations, performance tasks, unit pre- and post-assessments and mid-unit checkpoints. Assessments focus on grade-level state objectives and are directly linked to classroom learning activities and practice.



The MATH LEARNING CENTER