



## OVERVIEW OF BRIDGES

Bridges in Mathematics Second Edition is published by The Math Learning Center, a nonprofit organization focused exclusively on math education—from curriculum writing to professional development. Our products and services are used by educators throughout the United States and in many international locations.

Bridges in Mathematics reflects our belief that learning is a collaborative endeavor that requires perseverance and a willingness to experience disequilibrium in the process of constructing meaning. We encourage teachers to develop good questioning strategies and to promote discourse within a safe learning environment. We invite students to be responsible for their own learning and to make conjectures and test their thinking.

More information:

About Bridges [mathlearningcenter.org/bridges](https://mathlearningcenter.org/bridges)

Online preview [mathlearningcenter.org/evaluate](https://mathlearningcenter.org/evaluate)

## MATHEMATICAL FOUNDATIONS

The Math Learning Center grew out of a project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to improve the teaching of mathematics. The founders spent several years traveling to schools to observe classrooms and visit with teachers and students. Over time they developed a philosophy that emphasizes building a deeper understanding before engaging more abstract concepts. Motivated to continue creating new methods of math instruction, they established MLC as a nonprofit corporation in 1976.

A few years later, a convincing body of research emerged suggesting visual approaches to teaching and learning have universal validity. MLC experimented with a variety of applications to math education and, with additional funding from NSF, refined the results into an integrated system of visual models that build across the grade levels.

Bridges Second Edition is the third generation of elementary math materials published by MLC. All our materials are based on well-established research and reflect best practices in teaching.

A full bibliography of Bridges is available at [mathlearningcenter.org/bridges](https://mathlearningcenter.org/bridges).

## IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT

Bridges users benefit from access to curriculum specialists and online resources available via the Bridges Educator site. Workshops are available for initial implementation and for further professional development.

### Bridges Educator Site

Each Bridges classroom package includes free access to the Bridges Educator site (BES), a teacher portal designed specifically to support implementation. Content includes the full curriculum in indexed PDF files for easy viewing and downloading.

The site also features additional support and implementation resources. Grade-level curriculum specialists publish useful blog entries, and we continue to enhance the Resources section with professional development articles and videos that help build a professional learning community.

### Professional Development Workshops

Schools and districts adopting Bridges are offered a two-day, face-to-face Getting Started workshop. The sessions focus on the comprehensive mathematics that students need to know for the new standards. Participants examine the elements that make up the Bridges curriculum and learn how to use them effectively to differentiate instruction for their students.

MLC leaders are also available for additional workshops or consulting services. Our professional service team works collaboratively with educators to design the best program to meet your specific needs.