



BridgePartner Program vs. National Education Standards

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Our Bridge program vs. National Educational Standards

Mathematics Standards (National Council of Teachers of Mathematics) ¹	How does Bridge meet the standards?
Numbers and Operations	Counting points (hand, opponents, distribution, quick tricks, winners, losers). Strengthens short term memory.
Algebra	Spatial reasoning and visualization of the partner's and opponent's hands.
Data Analysis and Probability	Probability of plays. Analysis of scoring.
Problem Solving	Students solve problems during play, bidding and defense of the hand. Problems arising during play require re-evaluation and must be acted upon.
Reasoning and Proof	Making claims and defending these claims. Setting up the play of the hand before the first trick, using the expected outcome to support or reject the plan.
Communications	Communication between partners in bidding and defense is both verbal and through accepted symbols. Lines of reasoning must be explained and defended.
Representation	Bridge hands can be communicated on paper using a universally-accepted set of symbols.
Social Skills (Social Skills Asset Inventory/Search Institute) ²	How does Bridge meet the standards?
Empowerment	Bridge provides a safe alternative to other activities and continues to do so throughout a person's lifetime.
Boundaries and Expectations	Duplicate bridge is a game of rules! Consequences of your own play behavior as well as management of your emotional behavior are clearly stated.
Constructive Use of Time	Bridge is a creative activity which provides educational opportunities. Children are able to play bridge at home, in local clubs and tournaments.
Commitment to Learning	Children are motivated to play without realizing the educational benefits!
Positive Values	Children have an opportunity to defend their play of a hand and their bidding, in a calm non-confrontational way.

¹ <http://standards.nctm.org/document>

² <http://www.search-institute.org/assets>

Social Competencies	Children quickly learn that it is their own ability and not the perception of others that help them succeed in the game of bridge. Tournaments can also motivate to compete.
Positive Identity	Children actively engage in building skills regardless of their game level, which provides a sense of purpose for everyone involved.
Critical Thinking Skills (National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking) ³	How does Bridge meet the standards?
Clarity	Clarity is inherent in the bidding, defense and play of the hand.
Accuracy	Players are instantly rewarded for good thought processes. If they do not succeed by a given line of play, they can go through the process of correction based on factual assessment.
Precision	Bridge players are faced with the complexities of bidding and ensuring that their partners have the most precise information that they are able to give them about their hand.
Relevance	Students must show that the statement is relevant to the play of the hand or prove that it is not.
Depth	Questions cause players to think more carefully and analyze problems down to their root.
Breadth	Bridge play problems can sometimes be solved in different ways and each way can be tested.
Logic	Bridge forces players to constantly re-evaluate their play of the hand, their bidding and the defense against the opponent's hand.

³ <http://www.criticalthinking.org>