

New Assessment Tools for Bridges in Mathematics, Grade 1

This is a set of assessment materials designed in collaboration with the first grade teachers in the White River School District, Washington. Although these materials were designed specifically to help teachers track students' progress with respect to the Washington Performance Expectations, they address first grade skills that are common to most states, so we felt that we should share them with others around the country. You might use some or all of these new assessments in addition to, or in place of, the monthly Number Corner checkups and/or the interviews that appear at the end of Bridges, Units 1, 2, and 3.

The new assessment materials include:

1. A Yearlong Skills Interview, designed to be conducted in September as a baseline and then three more times over the year, fall, winter, and spring. This is a set of eight individual interview tasks. If it seems too long, consider conducting the tasks that seem the most useful to you. It might also serve as a resource to get an "in-depth" look at those students about whom you are most concerned.
2. A Yearlong Paper/Pencil Assessment to be conducted with the whole class 4 times over the course of the year. This assessment focuses primarily on students' skills with reading, writing, comparing, and ordering numbers to 120.
3. A Fact Fluency Assessment to be conducted with the whole class 4 times over the course of the year, starting in November.
4. A set of new bug, sea star/crab, penguin, and farm picture problems, specifically designed to be used for assessment purposes and scored accordingly during the units where first graders are solving and posing such problems.

You will find a PDF of each of these new assessments below. Included in each PDF are class checklists that will enable you to record and examine the results for your entire class. These checklists include suggestions for scoring students' work in a manner that reflects whether they are meeting standard, approaching standard, or in need of extra support to attain standard. These checklists include recommended resources for students who are struggling with particular skills. The blank column labeled "M.S." at the top of each class checklist provides a space for you to fill in the state standards that are addressed by each assessment item should you choose to do so.

We have also included a set of class checklists keyed to the Washington Performance Expectations and another keyed to the Oregon Math Standards.

Finally, we have included an Assessment Overview to show how each of the assessments in this collection addresses the Washington Performance Expectations over the course of the school year. This is meant to serve as an example that could be adapted to match your standards if you're working in a state other than Washington.