QUICK-START GUIDE

This guide will help you unpack and organize your materials, and lists a few first steps you can use to prepare to teach. You can find more tips and ideas at the Bridges Educator Site: bridges.mathlearningcenter.org.

What’s in the boxes

The Bridges classroom kit comes packed in four boxes—Boxes 1 and 2 contain materials for Bridges, and Boxes 3 and 4 contain materials for Number Corner. Each box has a package contents sheet you can use to check off items as you unpack.

What you’ll need

There are many good ways to organize your materials. Begin with the recommendations here, and refine your system throughout the school year to better meet the unique circumstances of your classroom.

Before unpacking and organizing, you’ll want to have the following materials on hand:

- Box or drawer for Bridges mats, game boards, cards, and spinners
- Box or drawer for Number Corner materials (calendar markers, cards, spinners, and display items)
- Six containers large enough to hold 8 ½” × 11” game boards (for Work Place materials)
- Box or basket to hold zip-top bags of coins, dice, game markers, bean counters, and spinner overlays
- Six tubs, one each for pattern blocks*, Unifix cubes*, Polydrons, geoboards, and each type of dominoes
- Additional quart-size zip-top bags and baskets, drawers, or boxes for your other materials*

* Required but not included in the kit (RNI). You can find a complete list of classroom materials at the Bridges Educator Site.
UNPACK Bridges materials

BOX 1 BRIDGES PRINTED MATERIALS

Teachers Guides

Your Teachers Guides are divided into eight units, each of which includes a unit introduction, 20 lessons, and the ancillary pages you’ll need to teach them. The Assessment Guide is also included in this box.

The Teachers Guides and Assessment Guide are also available at the Bridges Educator Site: bridges.mathlearningcenter.org.

Tabbed dividers are included for each unit and module of the program and for each section of the Assessment Guide.

Printed Game & Activity Components

This box also contains work mats, game boards, cards, and spinners that students will use to play partner games and explore math activities. Keep these materials in their labeled bags. You’ll need access to them throughout the year; they do not need to be accessible to students.

1. Game boards
2. Card decks
3. Spinners
4. Display cards
BOX 2 BRIDGES MANIPULATIVES

Box 2 of your kit contains the math manipulatives, pocket charts, and game items needed only in Bridges activities and lessons.

Everything in its place

- Store the large **number rack** in a convenient place. You’ll use it for the first time in Unit 1.
- Store **polydrons** in one plastic tub, **geoboards** in another tub, and the **dominoes** in two more tubs.
- Store the **portion cups** with your classroom supplies.
- Keep the **Domino Addition book** with your Teachers Guides for use with specific lessons.
- Store these items in a basket or small box:
  - **Plastic coins** (sort the coins by type, and put back into the plastic bags)
  - **Game markers** and **bean counters** (put in zip-top bags or small lidded containers)
  - **Spinner overlays**
  - **Dice** (dotted 1–6, numbered 1–6, and numbered 0–5)

You’ll add a few more items to these containers when you unpack your Number Corner materials.

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Schools may purchase additional student number rack kits from MLC as needed (item #RRNRS10). Consider sending your students on to Grade 2 with their own number racks so they can reuse them next year.
UNPACK  Number Corner materials

BOX 1  NUMBER CORNER PRINTED MATERIALS

Teachers Guides
The Number Corner Teachers Guides are divided into three volumes, each of which contains three months of instruction with their ancillary pages. The Number Corner section of the Assessment Guide is also included in this box. Tabbed dividers are included for each volume.

Word Resource Cards
You’ll use these cards to enhance your students’ math vocabulary development in context through the year. Use the alphabetical tabs to sort the cards, and store the box of cards in your bookcase or cabinet.

Printed Number Corner Components
You’ll need access to these materials throughout the year. Keep these items, in their labeled bags, where you can easily retrieve them as needed. Some items will be used in Bridges lessons as well as in Number Corner activities.

1 Calendar markers
2 Display cards
3 Calendar display cards and titles
4 Number line cards and slides
5 Work mats
6 Number Corner display charts
7 Ten-Frame Dot Cards
8 Hour/half-hour display cards
9 Spinners
BOX 2 NUMBER CORNER MANIPULATIVES

Number Corner Box 2 contains math manipulatives and pocket charts for Number Corner activities. You’ll use some of these materials in Bridges lessons as well.

Everything in its place

- Add the geoboards, plastic coins, spinner overlay, and dice to those unpacked from the Bridges kit.
- Store the geoblocks in a small tub or box.
- Store the craft sticks, adding machine tape, and mystery container with your classroom supplies.
- Post the three pocket charts in your Number Corner display area.
- Post the Magic Wall in your Number Corner display area and store the magnetic tiles nearby.

Note: Your Number Corner boxes contain a guide similar to this one, intended for classrooms where Bridges is not the primary curriculum. You may discard that smaller guide, as this one contains all the information you’ll need to get started with both Bridges and Number Corner.
PREPARE to teach

Take a little time to assemble your Teachers Guides and Assessment Guide. Place each unit of Bridges and volume of Number Corner in the appropriate three-ring binder, and insert the tabbed dividers in the appropriate locations. Add the Number Corner portion of the Assessment Guide to the Assessment Guide binder that came in your Bridges Box 1.

Keep your **Bridges Unit 1, Number Corner Volume 1, and Assessment Guide** binders handy for the beginning of the school year. Store the other binders in your bookcase or cabinet.

Set aside some time to read the **Program Introduction** for both Bridges and Number Corner. These grade-level overviews, located at the beginning of the Unit 1 and Volume 1 binders, further introduce the components and structure of the program.

**Bridges Unit 1**

Read the **Bridges Unit 1 Introduction**. Each unit’s introduction describes the mathematical content of the unit—models, concepts, and strategies students will work with in each unit.

Next, check out the **Unit 1, Module 1 introduction**. Each module’s introduction includes charts and lists you can use to prepare materials ahead of time.

Look over the first few lessons of **Module 1**. Take note of the Work Places that you’ll introduce during the first few days of school—three in Session 1 and two more in Session 3. Much of the first week of Bridges will be dedicated to establishing Work Place routines.
Number Corner September

Check out the September Introduction. Each month’s introduction includes a list you can use to prepare materials ahead of time, as well as a summary of the month’s workouts.

Assessment Guide

Read the Bridges Assessment Guide Introduction. This document includes information about observational, formative, and summative assessment in Bridges and Number Corner. It also includes an assessment map and charts you can use for reporting to families.

Take a look at the Bridges Unit 1 Assessments section of the Assessment Guide. Here you’ll find summary and scoring information about the assessment opportunities embedded in Unit 1. The first checkpoint assessment is in Unit 1, Module 2, Session 5.

Near the end of September, you’ll conduct the Baseline Assessment. The Number Corner Assessments section of the Assessment Guide includes a skills chart for Number Corner assessments as well as answer keys and scoring guides.

Next, read the introduction to each Number Corner workout for information about the math content in this month’s activities, an overview of the Calendar Grid pattern, and more details about materials preparation.

You can use the Sample Display illustration to help set up your Number Corner display. Use the Daily Planner and a copy of your school calendar to schedule your Number Corner instruction for the month.
the Bridges Educator Site

bridges.mathlearningcenter.org

The Bridges Educator Site is your source for downloadable files for printing, digital display materials you can use with a projector or interactive whiteboard, implementation and preparation guidance, games and other resources you can use to extend and support your instruction, and tips from classroom teachers at the Bridges Blog.

Curriculum tab
All of your curriculum materials are available in digital formats for viewing and download at the Curriculum section of the site. Here you’ll find answer keys, student materials in Spanish, and masters you can use to print replacement pieces such as game boards and calendar markers. Standards correlations and scope and sequence documents are available in the sidebar.

Resources tab
This curated collection of math apps, games, books, videos, and more is designed to help you enhance students’ learning. Display materials for use with projectors and interactive whiteboards are located here as well. You’ll also find Work Place sentence frames, Number Corner key questions in a keyring format, unit overviews you can share with families, and more.

Implementation tab
The Bridges Blog features tips and stories by Bridges classroom teachers at each grade level. In the PD Library you’ll find articles, presentations, and videos you can use independently or collaboratively to support your implementation. You’ll also find materials lists and downloadable assessment tools here, as well as resources for math coaches and Getting Started presentations.

Access to the Bridges Educator Site is included with the purchase of a Bridges or Number Corner kit. Your school or district account administrator can provide you with registration information. If you need more assistance getting started with the site, contact BESsupport@mathlearningcenter.org.