

PRESS RELEASE

New Elementary Math Curriculum for the Common Core State Standards: *Bridges in Mathematics Second Edition* Brings the Power of Visual Models to K-5 Classrooms

Salem, Oregon – October 15, 2012 The Math Learning Center, an innovative nonprofit publisher, announces the second edition of its well-regarded elementary math curriculum, ***Bridges in Mathematics K-5***. The new edition preserves the original program's dual-emphasis on problem-solving and procedural fluency while fully addressing the expectations of the Common Core State Standards. The Math Learning Center's unique approach fosters the skills students need for critical thinking, communication, and collaboration.

Bridges lessons incorporate increasingly complex visual models—seeing, touching, and sketching ideas—to create pictures in the mind's eye, helping learners construct, understand and apply mathematical ideas. The program thoughtfully structures independent investigations and practice as well as shared learning experiences to create an environment that has students expressing and justifying their assumptions and conclusions—testing and developing their thinking while learning from others.

“The Standards for Mathematical Practice align with our core belief that the purpose of education is to develop confident and motivated thinkers” said Dan Raguse, Executive Director. “While *Bridges* has always reflected this goal, the Common Core State Standards provided a clear focus for enhancements that we incorporated into the second edition.”

One of ***Bridges***' many distinctive features is Number Corner, a skill-building program that revolves around the classroom calendar, providing practice as well as continual encounters with broader mathematical concepts in 15-20 minutes of daily instruction. Number Corner includes over 200 different word resource cards across K-5 to help student develop essential math vocabulary.

Educators will also appreciate the support website with all instructional materials in digital format along with a wealth of resources. Curriculum specialists will keep it current with timely, relevant teaching ideas and will be available to answer implementation questions.

Bridges Second Edition incorporates several new models and manipulatives including the Number Rack (also known as the Rekenrek) which is also available as part of MLC's growing collection of free virtual manipulatives.

Sue Sears, a second grade teacher in Vermont, commented, “As an experienced *Bridges* teacher I have seen the power of the ten-frames visual model. The addition of the Number Rack to *Bridges* provides a wonderful new tool for engaging learners with this model. I have been so impressed with how my students are confidently constructing number combinations and modeling equations efficiently.”

Bridges Second Edition will be available for grades K-2 in April 2013 and grades 3-5 the following spring. For a preview of *Bridges* please visit www.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges2.

About The Math Learning Center

The Math Learning Center (MLC) is a nonprofit organization serving the education community since 1976. Our mission is to inspire and enable individuals to discover and develop their mathematical confidence and ability. We offer innovative and standards-based curriculum, resources, and professional development. MLC products and services are used by educators throughout the United States and in several international locations.

For more information:
The Math Learning Center, www.mathlearningcenter.org

Bridges in Mathematics, www.mathlearningcenter.org/bridges2
Number Corner, www.mathlearningcenter.org/nc/overview
Number Rack, www.mathlearningcenter.org/snr

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