

Advantages of Bridge

Training for Teachers

Western Illinois University's (WIU) Star On-Line program offers a bridge package which allows a teacher to earn 40 CPDUs by learning to play bridge and how to teach it to their students. Here is a link to the flier and to one of the tutorials.

http://www.wiu.edu/coehs/oppdt/star_online/staronline_flier_fall_2011.pdf

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=993K4WJSZTI>

Alternatively a ***Learn Bridge in A Day?*** class is available to local teachers or a teacher who could then and still go on-line at WIU and earn their CPDUs at a later date.

We would be happy to follow the class with a one hour Q & A and bridge teaching tips for the school teachers interested in teaching bridge at their school.

Material

The curriculum on which the Star On-line course is based on is **Bridge: A Path to Math**. This curriculum is coded to the National Math Standards and is available for free on the Bridge Teachers for Youth website

<http://www.btfy.org/curriculum/Combined.pdf>

This curriculum was created by Atlanta Junior Bridge bridge teachers and retired school teachers.

Also available on the same website is an Administrators Packet which gives samples of the curriculum, some research data and general information

<http://www.btfy.org/> (see fourth news item down).

Benefits

To the School:

- Improved academic performance on standardized tests (see Chris Shaw data in the Administrators Packet).
- Free.
- Interscholastic competition.
- Students learn cooperation and communication skills.
- Opportunities to create community projects.

To the Teachers:

- Coaching stipends available for those who create bridge clubs. (\$350.00 for those who teach at least 8 students, at least 16 hours; paid through ACBL).
- Opportunity to earn CPDUs and be re-imbursed for the expense (through Bridge at Schools, though their funds are limited).
- Free supplies.
- Have a new way of teaching math, logic and communication skills that will be more fun for the students and for them.
- Improved student scores on standardized tests.
- Learn a wonderful game, acquire a new hobby and meet new people.

For the Students:

- Improve academic performance.
- Make new friends.
- Travel both national and, perhaps, inter-national
- Scholarships available for teaching bridge to their peers, sportsmanship and proficiency.
- Improve social skills and make social contacts that will assist them in future academic and professional pursuits.

