

Dear Parents,

We are excited to offer your child the opportunity to learn bridge as part of their gifted curriculum. You may be wondering, "Why bridge?" Few activities offer as many lifelong rewards—or as much fun—as bridge. Here's why bridge stands out:

Inferential Thinking: Bridge challenges players to analyze information, form a vision, make plans, and adjust based on new information—essential skills for inferential thinking.

Teamwork: Success in bridge often relies on effective teamwork. Players learn to trust and communicate with their partners, developing skills in collaboration and mutual support.

Academic Enrichment: Studies show that bridge can boost academic performance. For example, a study from Carlinville, IL, found that middle-school students who played bridge scored 10-35% higher on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills than their peers. One teenage player even attributed his improved concentration on the SAT to the focus he learned at the bridge table.

Socialization and Multi-Generational Engagement: Bridge offers a safe, structured way to connect with others, including adults. It's a game that fosters family bonding and meaningful connections across generations.

Competition: Bridge offers a range of competitive opportunities—from local events to international tournaments. Even students with physical or emotional challenges can find a level playing field and enjoy the game.

Financial Opportunities: Bridge can lead to scholarships for both skill and character. Many players have also made valuable connections that led to jobs and other opportunities through bridge.

So, instead of asking, "Why should my child, with their already packed schedule, take on one more activity?" perhaps the question should be, "Why haven't I introduced bridge to my child?"

We're thrilled to offer your child this enriching experience and look forward to their participation.