Category:	Youth
Source:	World Bridge Federation — World Bridge Academy
Created by:	Fédération Française de Bridge
Target age:	6–9 years
Last updated:	2026.01.29

Petit Bridge

A simple, playful and powerful introduction to bridge for young minds.

Petit Bridge is an educational game created and owned by the **Fédération Française de Bridge** (FFB). The FFB allows its broad international use to support the worldwide development of bridge.

What Is Petit Bridge?

Petit Bridge uses a reduced **40-card deck** to introduce children aged 6 to 9 to the essential foundations of bridge. At the same time, it provides mathematics teachers with a highly effective pedagogical tool, already widely used in several countries.

The cards were designed specifically for young learners, with fun illustrations that make suit recognition immediate. Each colour represents a familiar category:

- **Red** — Clothing
- **Green** — Means of transport
- **Yellow** — Fruits and vegetables
- **Blue** — Animals

How Petit Bridge Works

The rules are extremely simple:

1. Each player receives **10 cards**, numbered 1 to 10 in each of the four colours.
2. The player to the dealer's left makes the **opening lead**.
3. Players must **follow the colour led** if they can.
4. The trick is won by the **highest card** of that colour.
5. As in bridge, the declarer's partner becomes the **dummy**, placing their cards face up so that children can reason using two visible hands.

With just a few rules, children encounter classification, comparison, constraint hierarchy, anticipation and teamwork — core skills that transfer to both bridge and everyday reasoning.

Educational Benefits

Petit Bridge is widely used in schools as a structured learning tool. Research on strategic games highlights their positive impact on attention, autonomy, error management, motivation and metacognitive development.

Cognitive Benefits

Improved concentration, sequential and conditional reasoning (if… then…), deduction and anticipation, spatial awareness and comparison, multi-criteria decision-making.

Mathematical Benefits

Comparing and ordering numbers, identifying numerical sequences, reasoning under constraints, modelling problem situations, developing simple strategies (master cards, establishing suits).

Language and Social Benefits

Explaining and justifying choices, discussing strategies in pairs or small groups, respecting rules and turn-taking, managing emotions, frustration and cooperation.

Petit Bridge in Context

At School: Petit Bridge naturally guides children from playing to analysing, then to formalising rules — a progression that aligns with active learning and contemporary neuroeducation. It can become a lever for national federations wishing to establish partnerships with Ministries of Education.

At Home: Games are short, simple and dynamic, making Petit Bridge ideal for family play. Adults can gradually introduce notions that will later lead to bridge, without forcing the learning process. It is a gentle way to transmit the values of mind sports: patience, reflection, teamwork and the pleasure of playing together.

Learn More

Access the full presentation, teaching materials, and downloadable resources on the World Bridge Federation website.

https://www.worldbridge.org/world-bridge-academy/petit-bridge/

Available in English, French, and Spanish.

Questions or suggestions? Contact us at info@eurobridge.org