

The Minibridge Craze at Our Lady, Star of the Sea Primary School

My name is Carolyn Sant and I am the Year five class teacher and Inclusion and Intervention Manager at Our Lady, Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School in Seaforth, Liverpool.

During spring term this year we have introduced 'Minibridge' to the children. As a game it is fun and involves the use of many skills such as: sequencing, sorting and classifying, turn taking, team work, mental calculation, problem solving and using working memory.

Children need to develop these skills for use in everyday life, but with time constraints in the curriculum it is not always easy to find activities that incorporate so many, in such little time.

A game of Minibridge takes my pupils, on average between 12-15 minutes. They enjoy it so much that they ask regularly to play in 'Golden Time', break times and lunch. Even on our recent school residential, during free time the children sat round and played! (this was rather good as they play in silence so it meant some peace and quiet!)

The children (without direction) will sit and teach other children how to play the game

I am very impressed with the inclusiveness of Minibridge. I have witnessed children with dyslexia, Asperger's syndrome, ADHD, dyspraxia and speech language impairments develop their skills so well that some have mastered the game better than others.

Minibridge has benefitted all of my pupils and all of my pupils enjoy it - describing it as 'boss', 'awesome' and 'exciting'.

I am a huge fan of Minibridge myself (can't resist joining in) and I am sure that the Minibridge craze will continue at our school for a long while to come!!

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