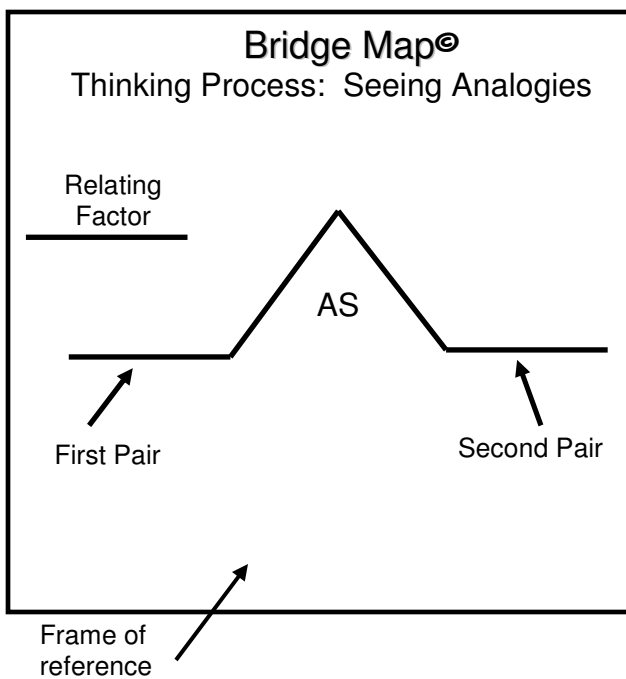


# Map Memo for Families: The Bridge Map<sup>®</sup>

A BRIDGE MAP<sup>®</sup> focuses on the thought process of seeing analogies. Students use a Bridge Map to identifying similarities between relationships and to create analogies. The relating factor between the words is made explicit and is underlined in these examples: "An apple is a type of fruit as a carrot is a type of vegetable". Another example is " $1/2$  is equal to  $2/4$  as  $1/3$  is equal to  $2/6$ ".



**Relating factor:** The relating factor is the similar phrase that fits both sides of the analogy.

**First pair:** The first pair of things that have the relating factor are written on the top and bottom of the left side of the bridge,

**Second pair:** The second pair of things that have the same relating factor are written on the right side of the bridge. The bridge can continue with more relating factors.

**Frame of reference:** The frame of reference around the map allows students to indicate what they knew or how they got their information about these relationships or to identify what makes these relationships important.

## KEY WORDS FOR BRIDGE MAPS<sup>®</sup>

*To identify common relationships, guess the rule, interpret symbols, similes, metaphor, allegory, ratio*

In each of the examples below students can best organize their thinking by using a BRIDGE MAP<sup>®</sup>.

"In what ways are a finger and a toe alike?"

"How are the principal of our school and the president alike?"

"What is the relationship between coins and a dollar bill?"

"Create as many equivalent fraction analogies as you can."

**Parent Tip:** ask your child to tell you what they know about BRIDGE MAPS<sup>®</sup> and how they have used them at school.