Maegan K Bos* (mbos@stlawu.edu), Dept. of Math, CS, and Stats, St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY 13617. NIMbly Bridging the Gap. Preliminary report.

Using a spring board assignment based on the simple game of NIM, students begin to grasp mathematical process. I will explain how they are guided through the hands on exploration of the problem, culminating in communicating the proof of all winning strategies in a clear, concise, and effective way. This assignment has been used effectively in both a bridge course for math majors as well as in an interdisciplinary course for non-majors. (Received September 20, 2007)