



Spanish A

Overview

The Pierce Middle School World Language Program aims to give students strong language instruction, along with insight into the culture of the target language. Students will make connections between curriculum content and the community at large. They will gain insight into their own language and culture through comparison and contrast. Their World Language education is designed to reinforce the areas of writing practice, grammar review, vocabulary, and syntax while adhering to the national standards. Students will practice higher level thinking skills through lesson design that utilizes analysis, deductive reasoning, summary and synthesis. Lesson planning takes into consideration differentiated instruction and a wide range of formative and summative assessment. Each year begins with a review of the fundamentals of the previous curriculum. Because of the cumulative nature of language, new lessons build upon and expand on these foundations from grade six to grade eight.

Transition from Lower Grades

Spanish A is designed for students who did not complete the five-year Spanish program in elementary school or for students transferring from districts with no elementary Spanish instruction. Students entering Middle School may also choose Latin as a new language (no prior knowledge required in grade six). The language that is chosen in grade six will remain the same for grades six, seven, and eight.

Students will be able to

By the end of Spanish A, students will be able to use the target language to:

- ask and answer basic questions about oneself; name, origin, age, likes and dislikes
- use vocabulary such as colors, numbers, months, days, classes, weather, family, chores, hobbies and pastimes.
- speak, read and write about needs, wants and hobbies
- conjugate present tense verbs; regular –ar, –er and –ir verbs
- conjugate irregular verbs; ser, estar, tener, venir, salir, poner, hacer, gustar
- use basic descriptive vocabulary
- tell where places are using prepositions of location
- ask for and give time (current and say when events take place)
- use possessive adjectives to show ownership

- give basic descriptions of people, places and events in the present tense
- talk about the cultures of Spain, México and the diverse Hispanic population of Florida

Reading Skills

Students will improve reading comprehension using:

- context clues
- images
- subtitles
- titles
- summaries
- predictions

Writing Skills

Students will enhance writing skills through:

- pre-writing activities
- scaffolding activities
- graphic organizers
- rough draft
- self editing, proofreading, error analysis
- dictionary and thesaurus skills
- redaction

Listening Skills

Students will develop listening skills through:

- hearing modeled pronunciation
- understanding and interpreting authentic media
- dictations
- summary
- aural interpretation and synthesis
- graphic representations of spoken content

Speaking and Communication Skills

Student will develop speaking skills through:

- schema activation
- mind mapping
- word banks
- pronunciation practice
- echoing
- improvisation
- refining oral expression

Assessments

Student's abilities and skills are developed and measured through a wide range of formative and summative assessments and activities, such as:

- skits
- essays and creative writing
- hands-on activities
- poems and songs

- Kinesthetic activities
- music
- videos
- media comparison and contrast
- oral presentations and reports
- exams
- quizzes
- homework
- participation

Texts and materials

Mundo Real 1 textbook (Part 1), workbook and online resources
Authentic supplemental materials



Frequently asked questions

Q: How can I help my student if I don't know the language?

A: Utilize extra-help sessions offered by teachers; help with organization of materials, assignments, due dates, time management and check agenda books on a daily basis.

Q: Are there any additional resources my child can use at home to strengthen skills?

A: See **Useful Websites** below

Useful Websites

- www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish
- www.cvc.cervantes.es/ensenanza/mimundo/default.htm
- www.studyspanish.com
- www.conjuguemos.com
- www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php
- www.uni.edu/becker/Spanish3.html
- www.my.hrw.com