



Spanish Curriculum Outline

The goal of our Spanish program is to instill in our students an appreciation of their Hispanic background by emphasizing on culture, oral and auditory expression, and fostering in them a sense of pride and enthusiasm for their language of origin. Students reinforce their grammar and composition skills by utilizing our Santillana USA curriculum program, anthologies and storybooks (in Spanish), as well as numerous Spanish APPS in their iPads.

Materials

- **Grades K - 8th:** Santillana USA *Descubre el Español Antología*;
- **Novels:** Required for 4th Grade the 8th
- ***Historical figures and important people/characters of today will be incorporated throughout the curriculum in the year.***

Pre-School

Students do Circle Time, Story Time, Art and Portfolio activities.

- Language concepts are introduced in Circle Time (in Spanish) using songs, games, and lesson activities. Concepts such as the alphabet, colors, Days of the Week, Months of the Year, Numbers from 1-20, and the Seasons are also reviewed during Circle Time.
- During Story Time, the teacher reads an authentic children's Spanish story (book) which helps to engage students' imagination and reinforce language concepts.
- During Art activities, students will complete an art project which gives them a "hands-on" application of language concepts. The teacher engages the students in small groups or one-on-one to assess their progress and practice conversation skills and abilities in a relaxed setting. This helps to further reinforce language concepts.
- Finally, students practice reading, writing, and are able to demonstrate mastery of language concepts during portfolio activities.

Elementary

Students work with Student Anthologies, develop grammar skills with Practice activities, and produce a Portfolio of their best work.

- Language concepts are reviewed (in Spanish) using songs, games, and lesson activities including concepts such as the alphabet, the Days of the Week, Months of the Year, Numbers from 1-100 (according to the grade level), the Seasons, and common greetings/saying goodbye.
- Using the Student Anthologies, the teacher reads an authentic children's Spanish storybook which helps to engage students' imagination and reinforce language concepts. Stories focused

on Spanish-speaking countries of the world help students learn about a variety of different places and cultures.

- Students learn to read and write in Spanish, build a foundation of grammar, enhance their vocabulary, focus on the most common verbs and their conjugations, and develop their oral speaking abilities and communication skills.
- During Practice activities, the teacher engages the students in small groups or one-on-one to assess their progress and practice conversation skills and abilities in a relaxed setting. This helps to further reinforce language concepts.
- Finally, students practice reading, writing, and are able to demonstrate mastery of language concepts during the production of the portfolio.

Middle School

Students work with Student Anthologies, produce “Teatro Highpoint” and create Portfolio works.

- Language concepts are reviewed (in Spanish) including concepts such as the alphabet, the Days of the Week, Months of the Year, Numbers from 1-100 (according to the grade level), the Seasons, greetings/saying goodbye as well as common phrases and questions.
- Using the Student Anthologies, the student practices reading aloud in Spanish which helps to build oral reading/speaking skills and through discussion the teacher assesses students’ comprehension in Spanish. Stories focused on Spanish-speaking countries of the world help students learn about a variety of different places and cultures.
- Students learn to read and write in Spanish, build a foundation of grammar, enhance their vocabulary, focus on the most common verbs and their conjugations, and develop their oral speaking abilities and communication skills.
- During “Teatro Highpoint”, students are paired and required to write a short story and direct a skit that will be performed by their peers at our Teatro Highpoint Event. This project allows students to gain leadership skills, practice their expressive writing in Spanish as well as their pronunciation skills. This helps to further reinforce language concepts.
- Finally, students practice reading, writing, and are able to demonstrate mastery of language concepts as they produce a portfolio of their work.

Hispanic Heritage

(Grades K-8th)

Students participate in a school-wide project where each class is assigned two or three Hispanic Countries for their presentation. Students prepare posters (or PowerPoint Presentations) with pictures and information, wear typical costumes, bring in typical foods and props, etc. They sing and dance and present their Countries in front of an audience comprised of parents and the entire student body.

“PM Spanish” Program

Designed to encourage students and teachers to engage, after lunch, in informal conversation. Our PM Spanish Program is a great way to provide students with an opportunity to practice their

expression and communication skills in Spanish in a relaxed atmosphere. It also serves to connect Spanish as valid form of communication outside of the Spanish classroom. Teachers may give class or assignment instructions in Spanish as well.

Teatro Highpoint

Students in 8th Grade are required to participate in this class project. This is not an elective course or activity. 8th Graders are paired and given a topic they have to write a short skit about. Students write, produce, and direct their skits on their own with the guidance of their teachers. They collaborate with 7th Graders (Narrators) and students in 3rd-6th Grades (actors). In the end, each 8th Grader's skit is presented in an assembly comprised of parents, faculty, and fellow students. All students receive a grade for their dedication to, participation in and cooperative skills demonstrated while working on the project.