

Spanish FLEX 5th Grade

As we start the new school year, I am very excited to continue the exploration of the Spanish language and culture with your child! Your child will have 30 minutes of Spanish once during the six-day cycle. Grade level vocabulary is available on my website that can be accessed from your school building's site on the Palisades School District website at: www.palisadessd.org . You will find my website to be a valuable resource. On my curriculum page, content, including word lists, can be accessed by topic and sound clips are available for your use.

Student Expectations:

All students are expected to participate in a way that is respectful to one another. Together they will:

- explore the sounds used to produce language
- learn of diversity and gain an appreciation and respect for other individuals and cultures
- make comparisons between their own language and culture and that being studied
- come to view language learning as an important life skill

At the end of 5th grade, it is expected that students will be able to use the language at a novice level range of low to mid according to the ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) guidelines. At the novice level, students primarily function with limited expression in the language. Speech relies heavily on memorized word lists or phrases. Students are able to use prefabricated and memorized answers to basic questions when used in context and familiar situations. As students reach the mid level, they demonstrate more comfort and consistency with the language.

Homework:

Students will not have formal homework assignments. However, please **DO** encourage your son or daughter to share with you what we practice and learn about in class. Occasionally intermediate students will have a crossword puzzle, word search, or some other type of activity page to practice a topic we are working on in class. Usually these can be completed in class, but are sometimes offered as an additional resource or for extra practice. Also, there are numerous interactive practice links available on my website that students can use as a fun and engaging way to reinforce thematic topics.

Grading:

Students will not receive a formal grade for Spanish FLEX on their report card. However students will be assessed as they try to meet 5 special challenges. These challenges will allow students to demonstrate that they have learned the Spanish words to: name special habitats and their features; name spare-time activities; name and describe class subjects; name and use food words; and provide general information about themselves on the topic: "Who am I?." Students who meet 4 or more of these 5 challenges will receive a special certificate of achievement at the end of the school year in recognition of their hard work and accomplishments.

Contact Information:

I will be at Springfield on days 1 and 4, Tincum on days 2 and 5, and Durham Nockamixon on days 3 and 6. If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress in Spanish FLEX, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached via email: sjefferson@palisadessd.org or to leave a voice mail message call: 610-847-5131, extension 9301.

I look forward to working with your child!
Sue Jefferson