

## 8th Grade Spanish

The 8th grade is a dynamic year full of exciting projects and hands on learning!

The students have a higher level of proficiency, therefore, they can dive deeper into their language study and begin to express themselves more fully in speaking and writing.

### THEMES

#### La Ciudad

The city unit in 8th grade provides students with an authentic approach to learning the cultural aspects of a Spanish city as well as the vocabulary necessary to ask for and give directions. The unit begins with students comparing and contrasting a building found in the US with the same building in Spain, Mexico or South America. Then, students begin the process of creating a model of this building at home. Next, students bring their building to class and present it in Spanish. Finally, the desks and chairs are removed from the classroom and a city is created on the classroom floor. Students use this model city to learn their directions in Spanish as well as to learn the cultural components of the setup of a Spanish city. As a culminating activity students cross the border into the other countries (French/Chinese classroom) with passports and observe the similarities and differences of these cultures. Students give each other tours of their city in the target language. This gives students the feeling of truly being in the other country. This unit focuses on the “Communication,” “Culture,” and “Comparison” strands of the MA and National Curriculum Framework for Foreign Languages.

Content of Unit:

- building vocabulary
- places in the city
- commands of regular and irregular verbs
- prepositions
- directions and location
- architecture
- city plan

#### El Pretérito

In this unit students learn how to describe past events and activities. The culminating activity for this unit is a virtual trip to Madrid. Students spend two weeks in the computer lab creating a 3 day trip to Madrid. They choose a hotel to stay in, restaurants and cafés to eat in and places to visit and tour. With the information they gather, students create a scrapbook of their "virtual trip" including pictures, tickets, advertisements, receipts and brochures. They also include a detailed description of their "trip", written in Spanish using the past tense.

Content of Unit:

- past tense of -ar, -er and -ir regular verbs
- irregular past participles
- adverbial expressions that require the past tense
- culture - places of interest, hotels, restaurants and cafés in Madrid

## **Los Medios de Comunicación**

Content of Unit:

- commands - giving orders
- reading directions - recipes
- reading and writing newspaper and magazine ads
- listening to radio announcements
- viewing Spanish television commercials
- making television commercials
- "how to project"

## **La Comida**

This unit extends what was learned in the 6th grade café unit with more detailed expressions, vocabulary and grammar. Students review beverages and café foods and add foods and dishes that they could order in a Spanish restaurant. They learn how to make reservations, read an extended menu, order food, talk about the food and ask for the bill. Students also learn foods and expressions that would allow them to shop in a grocery store or market. In this unit, the foods of different Spanish speaking countries are discussed. At the end of this unit students create menus for their "own" Spanish restaurant and spend a day "shopping" in the classroom open market.

Content of Unit:

- fruits and vegetables
- meats
- desserts
- beverages
- dairy products
- table setting
- partitive
- direct and indirect objects
- culture - restaurants, restaurant menus, food shopping in Spain and other Spanish speaking countries