

6th Grade Exploratory French, Spanish, and German

Course Description:

The 6th grade exploratory courses for World Language serve as an introduction to the basics of the language and cultures of the target language. The courses' goal is to spark interest, curiosity, and a general awareness of the language. They lay the foundation for future learning and engagement in the language.

Curriculum Work So Far:

1. Discussed the end goals for students in the WL program and steps to achieve those goals.
2. Discussed the amount of time allotted to the exploratory courses and how that would affect our decision making in terms of what is most important to cover during the time we have with the students.
3. Drafted an exploratory unit: *The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity*
4. Developed enduring understandings, essential questions, and student learning goals in alignment with the Missouri World Language Learning Standards. The enduring understandings and essential questions that drive the course are listed below. Additionally, the exploratory unit has specific enduring understandings, essential questions, and student learning goals.

Course Enduring Understandings:

- Learning about other cultures benefits us as individuals in a larger society.
- Language study is a window to discovering the norms, values, and cultural qualities of a people and their culture.
- The study of a world language and the ability to communicate with it foster a life-long appreciation and an open mind for cultures different from our own.

Course Essential Questions:

- How does learning a language help me understand cultures that are different from my own?
- How am I part of a global community?
- How will I use my language skills outside of the classroom?
- How can I be competitive in a world job market?
- How does language connect individuals and cultures promoting empathy and tolerance?

Student Learning Overview:

- This course is meant to attract students to the World Language program. Therefore, there is a strong focus on making meaningful connections between their own language and culture and that of the target language.