**ACTFL national standards for Language Learning**

The American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) standards for foreign language learning are called the 5 C’s. They are as follows:

* **Communication**- Communicate effectively in more than one language in order to function in a variety of situations and for multiple purposes
* **Cultures**- Interact with cultural competence and understanding
* **Connections**- Connect with other disciplines and acquire information and diverse perspectives in order to use the language to function in academic and career-related situations
* **Comparisons**- Develop insight into the nature of language and culture in order to interact with cultural competence
* **Communities**- Communicate and interact with cultural competence in order to participate in multilingual communities at home and around the world

More info is available at this link:

<https://www.actfl.org/sites/default/files/publications/standards/World-ReadinessStandardsforLearningLanguages.pdf>

**ACTFL Proficiency Levels**

The American Council of Teachers for Foreign Languages (ACTFL) uses the pyramid below to describe what language learners are able to do. Students in grades K-8 are Novice language learners. Students in Grades K-6 will be performing at the **Novice Low or Novice Mid** level of proficiency, meaning they will be able to speak and write in single words or short phrases about very familiar topics. The proficiency target for Grades 7-8 is **Novice High**, meaning they will be able to speak and write in mostly complete sentences about familiar topics that have been studied in class.



More info is available at this link:

<https://www.actfl.org/publications/guidelines-and-manuals/actfl-proficiency-guidelines-2012>

**Elementary Spanish Curriculum Grades K-3**

Students in grades K-3 are being taught using a curriculum from Fluency Matters called *Hola Niños*.

The goals of the program are:

* To develop an understanding and an appreciation for other languages and cultures
* To develop real usable listening comprehension skills
* To develop verbal proficiency in Spanish, using correct accent and pronunciation
* To build a vocabulary base, which will enable the learner to communicate about a variety of commonly and frequently discussed topics

Students will be able to:

1. Identify specific items and actions.
2. Understand and answer simple questions pertaining to personal state of being, family and personal facts, such as name, age, where one lives, etc.
3. Understand and express thirst, hunger, state of mind and being.
4. State wants, likes and dislikes.
5. Understand and answer simple questions pertaining to location, nationalities, numbers and counting to 50, days of the week, and months of the year.

*Note: Students grades K-3 will also learn about Hispanic culture through holiday explorations, songs, and videos.*

**Kindergarten**

**Unit 1: Greetings & Introductions**

* Greetings for different times of the day
* Common courtesies
* Stating someone’s name

**Unit 2: Descriptions**

* Numbers to 10
* Physical descriptions
* Action words
* Body parts
* Common words and expressions

**Grade 1**

**Unit 3: How are you feeling?**

* states of being
* days of the week
* food and eating
* common phrases and vocabulary

**Unit 4: The Body**

* stating hunger/thirst
* numbers and counting 11-20
* body parts
* common phrases and vocabulary

**Grade 2**

**Unit 5: The Family**

* stating family relationships
* statements of coming and going
* common phrases and school vocabulary

**Unit 6: Taking a Trip**

* nationalities and countries
* stating wants and likes
* modes of transportation
* numbers and counting 21-50

**Grade 3**

**Unit 7: What’s the weather like?**

* weather expressions
* seasons
* months
* date
* age

**Unit 8: Clothing**

* clothing
* expressing states of being (hold and cold)
* getting dressed

**Elementary Spanish Curriculum Grades 4-6**

Students in grades 4-6 are being taught using a curriculum from Fluency Matters called *Cuentame.*

The goals of the program are:

* To develop an understanding and an appreciation for other languages and cultures.
* To develop real usable listening comprehension skills.
* To develop verbal proficiency in the target language, using correct accent and pronunciation.
* To build a vocabulary base, which will enable the learner to communicate about a variety of commonly and frequently discussed topics.
* To develop solid language skills in the four modes of language: listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Students will be able to:
1. Identify and understand high-frequency vocabulary.
2. Understand and answer simple questions pertaining to personal state of being, family and personal facts, such as name, age, where one lives, etc.
3. Understand and express thirst, hunger, state of mind and being.
4. State wants, likes and dislikes.
5. Understand and answer simple questions pertaining to everyday life,
6. Understand and summarize short reading passages.
7. Understand and retell short stories and sequences.

*Note: Students grades K-4 will also learn about Hispanic culture through holiday explorations, songs, and videos.*

**Grade 4**

**Episode #1**

* Describing emotions
* Describing eating habits
* Action words

**Grade 5**

**Episode #2**

* Describing emotions
* Describing household activities
* Action words

**Grade 6**

**Episode #3**

* Describing a house
* Describing household chores and activities
* Describing an animal

**Grades 7 & 8**

*Students in grades 7-8 attend Spanish class daily and are learning the equivalent content of a high school Spanish I class over two years.*

Listed below are the main topics junior high students explore:

* Exchanging greetings and participating in basic conversations
* Describing oneself and others (name, hobbies, personality, age, and physical description)
* Explaining one’s afterschool and weekend activities and future plans
* Identifying and describing family members
* Giving opinions about, describing and identifying Hispanic foods
* Comparing and describing houses of the world
* Exploring tourism, vacation destinations and activities in Hispanic countries
* Exploring clothing, weather, and fashion in Hispanic countries
* Describing school schedule and giving opinions about school
* Reading and understanding simple biographies and stories

\*\*\*In addition, students will also explore Hispanic culture through holiday celebrations, music, videos, and other authentic resources.