

Foreign Language Thematic Units for Language Classes

Over the summer of 2015, teachers developed foreign language thematic units to help students acquire **social language** – language for everyday use both in class and if students were to travel to a foreign country. Up until then, most language taught had been around science, math and language arts content areas. These foreign language themes provide a framework for teachers to plan basic communication skills in addition to academic language through science, math and literacy.

We started the process by selecting foreign language themes that were most useful for kindergarteners and first graders. Each theme includes vocabulary and language structures to assist students in applying the vocabulary to their daily language use. The foreign language thematic units for each grade level are designed to build upon each other, so that the vocabulary and language structures become more advanced with each year.

Since 2015-2016 second graders were not exposed to these themes in their first two years at The GLOBE Academy, at this time, they are learning both the kindergarten and first grade units on a daily basis. We are in the process of developing the second grade foreign language thematic units for 2016-2017.

It is our hope that after three years of intentional teaching of social language through these foreign language themes, students will be able to focus their attention on the academic language of content areas.

Kindergarten

Unit 1	Greetings
Unit 2	School
Unit 3	All About Me and Body Parts
Unit 4	Immediate Family
Unit 5	Pets and Farm Animals
Unit 6	Weather, Seasons, and Seasonal Clothing
Unit 7	Community Workers and Places
Unit 8	Activities in School
Unit 9	Opposites (adjectives) and Fruit (color, size, taste)
Unit 10	Transportation
On- going all year	Calendar and Feelings

First Grade

Unit 1	More Advanced Calendar
Unit 2	Patterns in Clothing
Unit 3	Nationalities
Unit 4	Vegetables, Meat, Ordering Food
Unit 5	Extended Family
Unit 6	Opposites (verbs)
Unit 7	Weekend and Afternoon Activities
Unit 8	Additional Body Parts and Function
Unit 9	Additional Feelings
Unit 10	Places and Actions in the House
Unit 11	Insects, Reptiles, and Amphibians
Unit 12	Places and Directions (right, left)