

# Implementing World Language Introductory Activities in the Elementary School

## Steps for Curriculum Integration Model

- 1) **Identify resources found in current textbook series.** For example, many language arts series already have suggestions for incorporating another language and/or culture. Content topics for Grades K-2 could include self, home, school, and community. This content would naturally lend itself to culture and second language vocabulary such as family, description of self, weather phrases, calendar, and school places.
- 2) **Use curriculum mapping and planning** to promote the integration of language, culture, and grade content and to provide for a well-articulated program. What should the students know and be able to do? Each school's existing curriculum, based on the national and/or state standards, will provide the direction and expectations of the language instruction for each grade level. A well-articulated written curriculum provides the best learning scenario for students and makes clear the objectives for teachers. (See NE K-12 Foreign Language Frameworks Curriculum Planning at [www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/Frameworks/FrameworksMain.htm](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/Frameworks/FrameworksMain.htm))
- 3) **Identify literature, art, music and games to reinforce the curriculum.** Many schools and local libraries already have wonderful resources that could be incorporated into a unit of study. Many children's books and songs are written in numerous languages. Using English language books, one could attach second language word labels to characters or objects in the book or one could cover the English text and use simple second language captions.
- 4) **Identify community resources** to support language learning such as high school second language teachers, advanced second language students, parents or community members who are proficient in the second language, and students who are native speakers.
- 5) **Identify internet resources** that can support the teacher in the language component of the lesson. Internet resources could also be used to provide additional language practice for students. (Resources available at [www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG))
- 6) **Be realistic.** Start by integrating world languages into the curriculum using one story and building on that vocabulary throughout the semester.
  - Set a reasonable goal
  - Add an integration unit where you see a natural fit in your curriculum
- 7) **Assess program effectiveness**, reflect on the successes and/or challenges and make any necessary changes.
- 8) **Review the following model lesson examples** that demonstrate how a story can be integrated into various content areas of the curriculum. These lesson plans can be adapted to fit the needs of your students. (More resources available at [www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG))