

How to Teach with Spanish Champs

This book includes 16 lessons. Each lesson includes a plan for a 25 minute class, a curriculum, a take-home activity, and references to illustrations found on the Resource CD.

Each lesson is meant to span two weeks, depending on the ages and Spanish background of your children, you can adjust the time for each lesson, shorter or longer as needed.

In this Preschool and Kindergarten program, we use less than half of the Spanish Champs Level 1 songs, feel free to insert any of the other songs into your Spanish program. For example, La araña subió (The Eensy Weensy Spider) or Estrellita (Twinkle, Twinkle), these are fun songs, but aren't "anchor" songs in the program.

Ideally, Spanish will be used in class each day. Spanish Champs is meant to teach Spanish through structured play, especially songs and accompanying motions to the songs. Spanish Champs uses a technique call Total Physical Response or TPR.

You will have to tailor the program depending on the age of the children you are working with. For children two and younger, we suggest that you simply add Spanish Champs songs into your daily routine. For children three and above, we suggest setting up a schedule, for example Monday, Wednesday, Friday for actual lessons. The lessons are laid out as a 25 minute class, this is approximate timing the class may take 20 minutes or 40 minutes depending on your pacing. This will be too long for some children and the lesson can be broken into two sessions.

The Spanish Champs program can be used even if you have little or no background is Spanish. Teachers will learn alongside their students. Of course, the more Spanish you know the better.

We also suggest that you incorporate Spanish into any performances you do for parents, this motivates the kids and helps the parents to see that their children are learning.

Week 1:

M: Teach New Lesson

Tu: Use songs in circle time & Video Segment

W: Repeat or Finish New Lesson

Th: Use songs in circle time & Video Segment

Fr: Activity from Curriculum Sheet or Coloring book

Week 2:

M: Activity from Curriculum or Coloring book

Tu: Use songs in circle time & Video Segment

W: Work on Activity from Curriculum Sheet

Th: Activity from Curriculum or Coloring book

Fr: Perform Song from Lesson

Set-up a Spanish learning area (center) in the classroom where children have access to books and other learning resources. Start to build a library of storybooks, pictures and other manipulatives.

The lessons are written for a teacher going into a classroom that isn't their own, because in many schools, only one or two teachers in the school speak Spanish, and they will be the lead teacher for the program. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT that the regular classroom teacher participate in the program even if they aren't the primary teacher for the program. They will need to reinforce the lessons throughout the week.

For additional tips on teaching Spanish Champs or to share a tip visit www.SpanishChamps.com.