



Futura Language Professionals

Theme: El Alfabeto-The Alphabet

Time Span: 4-5 Weeks, minimum

Level I

Core Vocabulary:

A	F	L	P	U
B	G	LI	Q	V
C	H	M	R	W
Ch	I	N	Rr	X
D	J	Ñ	S	Y
E	K	O	T	Z

Optional Vocabulary:

Nombre ¿Cómo se escribe _____?

Apellido

Activities Chart

Listed below are some suggestions for activities and their appropriate age levels.

Activity	k-2	3-4	5-8
Name Game	x	x	x
Spell off		x	x
Alphabet Race	x	x	x
Alfabeto con el cuerpo	x		
Yo veo	x	x	x
Alphabet relay	x	x	x
Pesca		x	x

An explanation of the activities is listed below and on the following pages:

Pesca: Divide your class into pairs. Give the students a stack of notecards and then have each student write the entire alphabet on a set of cards with each letter on a separate card. Then take the two sets of notecards and shuffle them. The cards should be placed in the between the two players and each player draws cards alternately, taking 5 cards. Both players place pair matches they have down, identifying the letter out loud in Spanish. One point is earned for each pair. Players then try to steal cards from each other by asking: ¿Tienes _____ + a letter? (filling in the blank with whatever card is trying to be matched). If they don't have the card requested, they respond by saying *Pesca* meaning *Go Fish*, and the other player must draw a card from the stack in the center. If they do have the card, they say *sí*, and then give the other player the card. Players continue until one person matches all the cards.



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Name game: Have your class gather in a large circle, standing up. Bring in a light ball, like a whiffle ball. Each student is to say the first letter of his or her name in Spanish plus their name if they are tossed the ball. That person must then toss the ball to another classmate (not the person standing next to him or her) and say that person's first letter of their name plus their name. Example: If the person with the ball is Amy and she is tossing the ball to Jack, she would say, "A-Amy; Jota, Jack." After everyone has gotten the ball one time, students need to toss the ball again, remembering the exact order that it was originally tossed. This is a great exercise in practicing the alphabet and makes a really fun memory game. You can also play it as a speed game or have the students play the second round in reverse.

Spell off: For your older grades, have students compete against each other in a spell off. Give the students simple words in Spanish like "Hola" or "Adiós." Play it like a spelling bee, in which students sit out if they spell a word incorrectly. Keep playing until you crown a spelling champion. You can also write more difficult phrases on the board and have the students spell out the individual letters.

Alphabet Relay: Place letters on note cards into brown paper bags. Divide the class into two to four teams. Send one member from each team to the bag as you call out a letter in Spanish. Students will race to the bag to be the first one to pull out the correct note card from the bag. The person to pull the correct letter first scores a point for his or team. You can make this game more challenging by adding numbers to the bags as well and alternately calling numbers and letters.

Alfabeto con el cuerpo: This is a nice activity for younger students. Divide the class into teams of 4-5 students. Call out a letter. The teams must work together to create the letter using their bodies. Reward the fastest and most accurate group with a point. The team with the most points at the end of the activity wins. *Hint: This game will be most successful if you review the alphabet together beforehand.*

Yo Veo: This game is similar to "I spy." You can play this activity as an entire class. Give the students clues of letters around the room. Give the clues in Spanish and in English. For example you can say "Yo veo la letra *a* y es rojo". "I see the letter *a* and it is red."

Alphabet Race: You can play this as teams or as individuals. Give your students small white boards with markers or white pieces of paper with pencils. Call out a letter in Spanish. The students must write the correct letter onto their whiteboards or papers and hold them up. Example: If you call *zeta*, the students write the letter *z*.



Notas Culturales:

- ❖ Depending on the country, there are different accents and pronunciations of words (dialects). Example: "¿Cómo estás?" sounds like ¿Cómo esthas? in Spain. You can explain this further by showing how someone in Alabama, Wisconsin and Boston would say, "How are you?" with their particular accents.

- ❖ Names-This is a great opportunity to introduce Spanish names to the students for use in class or with their puppets. Using the enclosed list of names, have the children pick a Spanish name and explain how they have common names like we do. For example: You can explain how Tom, Mary, Katie, and Amy are common names in the U.S., as Miguel, Juan, Maria, and Carmen are in Mexico. Also, be sure to explain how people in Spanish speaking countries have two first names and two last names. Example: a boy can be named José Luís Martinez Gonzalez. Martinez would be his father's last name and Gonzalez would be his mother's maiden name. Help the students figure out what their last names would be if their parents had followed this same tradition.

- ❖ The letters Ch, Ll, and Rr are sometimes not taught in modern times. Instead of being thought of as letters, they are thought of as sounds only. You can choose to include them in your instruction of the alphabet or not.

- ❖ The letters "b" and "v" sound the same in Spanish. For example: The word *veinte* is pronounced "beinte."



Music Suggestions

SANCHO - (Sing to the tune of "BINGO")

Un perro grande tengo yo

Y él se llama Sancho

S A N C H O, S A N C H O, S A N C H O

Y él se llama Sancho.

Un perro grande tengo yo

Y él se llama Sancho

- A N C H O, - A N C H O, - A N C H O

y él se llama Sancho

(Same verse except one letter is omitted each time)

- - N C H O, - - N C H O, - - N C H O

- - - C H O, - - - C H O, - - - C H O

- - - - O, - - - - O, - - - - O

- - - - - , - - - - - , - - - - -

Y él se llama Sancho.

"The Alphabet Song" - Sing this song from the "Sing, Dance, Laugh and Eat Tacos Volume 2" CD and march around the classroom to the tune. You can also assign each student a letter and give that student a piece of paper with that letter on it. Each time the songs says their letter, they must hold their letter high above their heads.



List of Spanish Names

Antonio
Carlos
César
Cruz
Daniel
Emilio
Enrique
Ernesto
Francisco
Hector
Ignacio
Ivan
Javier
Jesus
Jorge
José
Juan
Luis
Miguel
Omar
Pancho
Rafael
Raul
Roberto
Román
Rubén
Santiago
Victor

Adriana
Alejandra
Alicia
Ana
Angelica
Cecilia
Claudia
Cristina
Dominga
Dora
Eva
Gabriela
Graciela
Guadalupe
Ivonne
Juana
Juanita
Katia
Leticia
Manuela
Maria
Marisol
Marta
Patricia
Rosa
Rosario
Silvia
Thalia