

# SPANISH CURRICULUM

The Adolescent Community Spanish program is a two-year course equivalent to the first year of high school Spanish. It builds on skills and vocabulary acquired in Upper Elementary, although it is now treated as an academic class. By the completion of eighth grade the students should be prepared to enter Spanish II should they choose to do so. The theme-based class involves both group activities and individual work focusing on interpersonal, interpretive and presentational communication skills. Vocabulary and grammar topics are incorporated throughout. Students also examine themes covered in other classes through the lens of the Hispanic world, gaining a broader perspective of the people who speak the language they are learning. In addition to fostering communicative competence, emphasis is placed on cultural understanding through the use of authentic texts, music and artifacts.

The methodology employed draws from both Montessori pedagogy and current research on foreign-language learning. The *Realidades I* textbook published by Prentice Hall serves as a supplement to class activities. This series includes videos, audio tracks, and cultural activities in addition to reading, writing and speaking practice. The curriculum includes all vocabulary and grammar topics covered in Spanish I classes in the Knox County School District, where the majority of our students will attend high school. In addition to meeting curricular guidelines, our program provides students with the opportunity to delve further into the history, culture and daily life of the Spanish-speaking world and Spanish speakers in the local community. This may be through field trips to local restaurants, visits by guest speakers or participation in local events like the annual HoLa Festival.

## Proposed Themes

	<b>Year A: Mi vida</b> (My Life)	<b>Year B: Mi mundo</b> (My World)
Cycle 1	La comunidad hispana (The Hispanic Community)	La comida y los restaurantes (Food and Restaurants)
Cycle 2	Mi comunidad (My Community)	
Mini-Cycle	Amigos por correspondencia (Pen Pals)	Videomisterio: <i>¿Eres tú, María?</i> (Mystery Series: <i>Is that you, Maria?</i> )
Cycle 3	Mi familia (My Family)	La ropa (Clothing)
Cycle 4	Mi casa (My House)	Los deportes y el ocio (Sports and Leisure)