

Language

When the Spanish first came to Mexico in 1517, the people of middle America spoke many different languages. As the Spanish and Indian cultures blended, the Spanish language spread. However, in certain areas the people continued to speak their own language and the ancient languages were preserved. In Mexico today, one can still hear the ancient Maya and Zapotec languages.

Today almost all Mexican people speak Spanish, which is the country's official language, in addition to their own tribal language.



Project

Play a matching game and learn some simple phrases in Spanish.

Materials

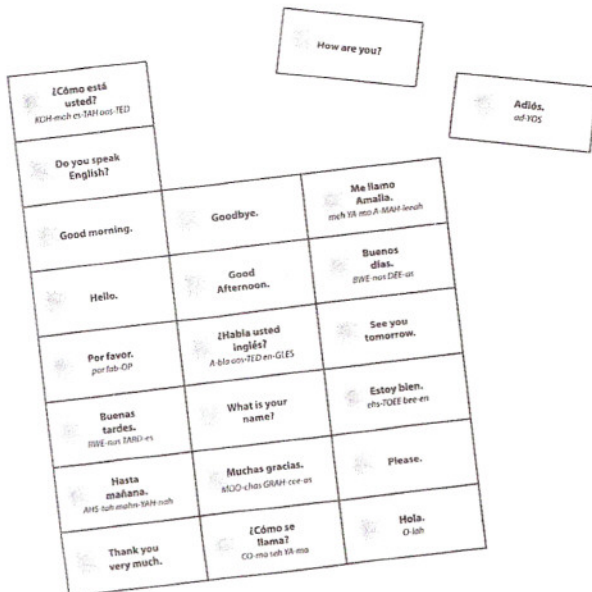
- Language Match-Up Game
- crayons
- construction paper
- scissors
- glue

Directions

1. Color and cut out the language cards.
2. Try to match up the Spanish language card with the English language card that says the same thing.
3. After matching the cards correctly, glue them next to each other on construction paper to make a reference sheet. Practice saying the new words you have learned with a friend.

For the Teacher

Copy one Language Match-up Game (page 23) per student.



Answer Key

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Hola. | Hello. |
| 2. Buenos días. | Good morning. |
| 3. Buenas tardes. | Good afternoon. |
| 4. Adiós. | Goodbye. |
| 5. Hasta mañana. | See you tomorrow. |
| 6. ¿Cómo se llama? | What is your name? |
| 7. Me llamo Amalia. | My name is Amalia. |
| 8. Por favor. | Please. |
| 9. Muchas gracias. | Thank you very much. |
| 10. ¿Cómo está usted? | How are you? |
| 11. Estoy bien. | I am fine. |
| 12. ¿Habla usted inglés? | Do you speak English? |