



Weekly LANGUAGE CLASSES FOR 1-4 GRADE STUDENTS

The Okemos World Languages (OWL) Partnership is a collaborative project between Okemos Public Schools and Michigan State University (MSU), specifically the Teacher Education Program and the Center for Language Teaching Advancement. OWL is a bi-weekly after-school program that introduces Okemos children in grades 1-4 to different languages and cultures. It is an introductory opportunity for students to practice basic communication skills in French, Spanish, Chinese and Japanese. We aim to expose students to world languages and encourage them to pursue whichever language they enjoy in the future. Introducing languages in any capacity at a young age is invaluable. Additionally, learning a second language (or third, or fourth) is a process that continues for a lifetime, and we are excited for this opportunity to provide your children with a new way of developing their academic and interpersonal skills.

Our lessons actively engage the students in the learning process. We incorporate a variety of language activities, games, and cultural information to cater to different learner types and learning styles. Our lessons emphasize functional language use and cultural awareness. The lessons are implemented by pre-service student instructors from the Teacher Education Program at MSU under the supervision and guidance of MSU faculty members.

The OWL Partnership incorporates the following elements:

- *communication in the target language in real-life situations*
- *student-centered activities based on what students need, already know, and can do*
- *prioritizing cultural awareness and integrating culture in every aspect of language instruction*
- *catering to diverse learning styles, while encouraging the development of a wide range of skills*

Classes will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm - 5:10 pm starting the week of September 11, 2017 and ending on December 6, 2017 for a total of 20 sessions. Snack will be offered to students between 4:00 - 4:10 pm. Cost of the class is \$150.00. Classes will not meet during the following dates:

- *September 20*
- *October 18*
- *November 6, 8, 15, 22*

OWL is open to all Okemos 1st – 4th Grade students. The location will be determined by the school with the majority of the registrations. Students not attending that school will need to have their own transportation.

Enrollment is available at <http://www.okemosonline.com>

For any questions related to the program, feel free to contact the Teacher Education instructor/field supervisor: Ashley Fuente (afuente@msu.edu).