

How to teach Spanish for Children

A SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

This is a basic weekly schedule useful for either four or five class periods per week and taking approximately 20 minutes per day. This schedule is to be modified as necessary by a school or home-school teacher.

Day One: Vocabulary

Introduce chapter *Frases* and *Conversación*, new vocabulary, and grammar paradigm (*Canto*) to the student(s). Watch the *Canto* portion of the DVD lesson to introduce the *Canto* and week's vocabulary. Take time to practice reciting each new word and its meaning aloud. Have students make their own flashcards of the vocabulary words for review.

Day Two: Grammar

Begin by first reciting or chanting the week's grammar paradigm (*Canto*). Practice the week's vocabulary by chanting along with the chant-CD included with the DVD set. Watch the Grammar lesson on the DVD. Next, read the grammar lesson in the Primer by having the students read out loud, stopping often to ask comprehension questions about what they have just read: "What is a conjugation?" What does it mean to conjugate a verb?" As they read, have them also circle or underline key sentences that will prove helpful for the memory worksheet.

Day Three: Application

Begin class by once again chanting the grammar paradigm (*Canto*) and vocabulary list (chant cd). Review the grammar lesson. Have students work through the memory worksheet(s) in the primer. Review the worksheet and make certain that students understand their errors and carefully correct them.

Day Four: Review

Once again it is important to begin class by reviewing the new grammar paradigm (*Canto*) and vocabulary list. The remainder of the class should be spent reviewing the weekly lesson and preparing for the next day's quiz. Have students practice the flashcards they made on Day One. You may choose to review the grammar lesson by again viewing the DVD. For fun, read a chapter of *Tin Bot*.

Day Five: Assessment

Practice chanting the new paradigm and vocabulary words one more time before having students complete the quiz at the end of the chapter. Take care to make sure students understand all the directions before they begin. Oftentimes assessments, particularly short quizzes, do not take the entire class period. For classes that cannot meet five days per week, you can move right into a new round of vocabulary for the next chapter. Carefully combining days one and five as presented here will neatly fit you into a four day cycle.