



Dear Family:

Welcome to *Descubre el español con Santillana*! This year, your child will be learning Spanish by exploring the culture of eight Spanish-speaking countries. Please join us as we travel through each of the countries and communities.

Our first stop is Honduras. In this unit, your child will learn vocabulary associated with greetings and goodbyes, family members, and friends.

As your child “travels” through Honduras, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
 - ¿Cómo me saludas? How do you say hello to me?
 - ¿Cómo te saludo? How do I say hello to you?
 - ¿Cómo me presentas? How do you introduce me?
 - ¿Cómo te presento? How do I introduce you?

- Encourage your child to talk about Honduras. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Honduras is.

- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Honduras. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Peru. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with colors, the community, the city, and the home. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about the clothing worn by the people of Peru.

As your child “travels” through Peru, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Dónde vives, en una casa o en un apartamento? Where do you live, in a house or in an apartment?
A mí me gusta el color azul. ¿Qué color te gusta? I like the color blue. What color do you like?
Mi casa tiene una cocina. ¿Qué tiene tu casa? My house has a kitchen. What rooms does your house have?
Compro alimentos en el mercado. ¿Dónde compras el pan? I buy food at the food market. Where do you buy bread?
- Encourage your child to talk about Peru. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Peru is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Peru. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of the Dominican Republic. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with schoolyard games, school places, and school supplies. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about classroom activities.

As your child “travels” through the Dominican Republic, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿A qué juegan los niños en tu escuela? What do children play at your school?
¿Cómo se llaman los lugares de tu escuela? What are the names of places at your school?
¿Qué útiles usas en tu escuela? What supplies do you use at school?
- Encourage your child to talk about the Dominican Republic. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where the Dominican Republic is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about the Dominican Republic. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Spain. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with pets and farm animals. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about how to take care of pets.

As your child “travels” through Spain, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo se llaman las mascotas? What are pets called?
¿Cómo se llaman los animales de la granja? What are farm animals called?
¿Cómo se mueven los animales? How do animals move?
- Encourage your child to talk about Spain. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Spain is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Spain. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Mexico. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with food and utensils used at the dining table. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about whether they are feeling sick or well.

As your child “travels” through Mexico, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Cómo se llaman las partes de tu cuerpo? What are the names of your body parts?
Quiero comer tamales. ¿Qué quieres comer? I want to eat tamales. What do you want to eat?
Uso un tenedor para comer. ¿Qué usas para beber? I use a fork to eat. What do you use to drink?
- Encourage your child to talk about Mexico. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Mexico is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Mexico. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Argentina. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with recyclable materials, the weather, and the seasons. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about traveling and the means of transportation.

As your child “travels” through Argentina, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Qué reciclas? What do you recycle?
¿Cómo está el tiempo? How is the weather?
¿Cómo se llaman las estaciones? ¿Qué estación es ahora? What are the names of the seasons? What season is now?
- Encourage your child to talk about Argentina. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Argentina is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Argentina. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this unit, your child will explore the country of Panama. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with professions and cargo ships. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about the Panama Canal.

As your child “travels” through Panama, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
¿Qué trabajadores aprendiste? ¿Dónde trabajan? What workers did you learn about? Where do they work?
¿Cómo son los barcos? How are the ships?
¿Qué llevan los barcos de carga? What does the cargo ships have?
- Encourage your child to talk about Panama. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Panama is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Panama. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Sincerely,



Dear Family:

In this final unit, your child will explore the country of Colombia. Your child will learn vocabulary associated with food, drinks, and games at a birthday party. In addition, your child will learn to use Spanish descriptive words when talking about Colombian culture.

As your child “travels” through Colombia, you may help him or her to expand on these concepts by doing the following activities at home.

- Ask your child what he or she is learning to say in Spanish at school. Encourage your child to act as if he or she is your teacher. Ask:
 - ¿*Qué te regalan en una fiesta de cumpleaños?*
What gifts do you get at a birthday party?
 - ¿*Qué comes en una fiesta de cumpleaños?*
What do you eat at a birthday party?
 - ¿*Qué juegos juegas en una fiesta de cumpleaños?*
What kind of games do you play at a birthday party?
- Encourage your child to talk about Colombia. Allow your child to talk to you in English, but encourage him or her to give some of the information in Spanish. Then, use a map of the world to ask your child where Colombia is.
- Ask your child to name the most exciting thing he or she learned about Colombia. Then have him or her draw a picture of it and write a sentence describing it. Encourage your child to write the sentence in Spanish. Allow your child to bring the drawing back to school to share with the rest of the class.

Thank you for accompanying your child on his or her trip through the Spanish-speaking world. We encourage you and your child to continue to learn about the Spanish language and culture by accessing Web sites containing more information about the countries studied this year. You may also consider enriching your child’s experience by establishing communication with your local Spanish-language community.

Sincerely,